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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 1, 2004, at 2 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2004

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable LINCOLN D. CHAFEE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God of grace and God of glory, on Your people send Your power. You are the God of nations, the ruler of the universe. Let Your power and mercy rule those who guide us and make our laws. May our Senators feel Your presence today and receive Your wisdom as they work to safeguard our liberties. Remind them often that right defeated is better than evil that triumphs.

Look with compassion upon those who assist these leaders in their labors. Remind us all of our calling to serve You by serving others. Where our hands are closed, open. Where our hearts are shut, pry. And where our resolve is weak, prod.

Fill us with the love of truth and righteousness. We pray this in Your powerful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable LINCOLN D. CHAFEE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 21, 2004.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable LINCOLN D. CHAFEE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. CHAFEE thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning we will return to consideration of the Department of Defense authorization bill. Senators WARNER and LEVIN are here to consider cleared amendments from both sides of the aisle. Also, some Members will wish to speak on the pending amendment which was offered by Senator GRAHAM of South Carolina. That amendment was offered yesterday morning. Unfortunately, we were unable to vote on that amendment during yesterday's session. I had hoped we would be able to vote on that amendment and move forward with the bill. However, that appears unlikely. Therefore, no rollcall votes will occur during today's session.

Once again, I hope we could limit amendments to the overall bill. I know the chairman has a list of Republican amendments he will begin to work through. It would be helpful if we could lock in the list on both sides of the aisle, to give managers an idea of what to anticipate, both in terms of making progress and ultimately finishing the very, very important bill.

We did make good, reasonable progress on the bill this week. I hope Members will alert their respective chairman or ranking members about their amendments so we can continue to move ahead on this bill.

When we return from our recess, I do still plan to go to class action. As I have stated on numerous occasions, starting actually a couple of months ago, I will be talking to the Democratic leadership about proceeding to that bill. We will say more at the close of business today, after we see what progress can be made on the Department of Defense authorization bill in the course of today.

This week I was pleased we were able to reach an understanding on judicial nominations, I think a very fair and balanced approach to 25 of these nominees. We will vote on these pending nominations and we will continue to press on for votes for all of the judicial nominees in addition to those 25.

We also need—and I mentioned it last week and the week before—we need to

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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press on for nonjudicial nominations as well. There are approximately 60 nonjudicial nominations, including very critical Ambassadors, that remain pending on the calendar. I know there have been a lot of discussions back and forth about how best to proceed on these nominations. We must find a way to schedule consideration of these individuals. We need to continue to work to do that. There are 60 of them on the calendar. We need to proceed in good faith.

The fact that we made such good progress on the judicial nominations this week leaves the door open to a good way of addressing many of these nominations that are on the calendar. We need to allow the Senate to begin a process to confirm these people. When you look at the calendar itself, these nominations are page after page—14 pages of these nominations that are awaiting our action.

I look forward to bringing them to the floor at the appropriate time, with discussion with the Democratic leadership.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic whip is recognized.

NOMINATIONS AND DOD

Mr. REID. Before the distinguished majority leader leaves, I would like to say a couple of things. We worked hard. You and Senator DASCHLE were able to work your way through an agreement on judges. I agree with the majority leader, I think it is fair. We will have processed within the next few weeks, I think, 198 judges. I think that is the number we will have processed.

I also say as far as the nominations for other posts that are on the calendar, we, of course, are waiting for you and Senator DASCHLE to work something out on those also. We need to move forward on some of the Democrats submitted by Senator DASCHLE to the President and which are either languishing down there or haven't moved for other reasons. We hope that can be done before we move too much further in this legislative session, when things get jammed up.

I also say while the distinguished chairman of the committee is on the floor, and the majority leader, we believe we can work through these amendments on the Defense authorization bill. Between both Democrats and Republicans at this stage there are about 100 amendments, a fairly equal number on each side we have been given at this stage. A lot of these amendments, as always happens, are not going to be offered. A lot can be accepted by the two managers of the bill.

I would say this. I think yesterday we could have made more progress than we did. We made an offer that, on the Graham amendment, we would like that put over until after the recess. That is what has happened, anyway.

If that had been the case, Senator CANTWELL and Senator HOLLINGS would agree to a 2-hour time limit to dispose of those two amendments.

We have a number of amendments. Senator DASCHLE wants to offer his TRICARE amendment, Senator KENNEDY wants to offer an amendment that has already been seen by the majority, by the managers. It may take a little bit of time. There are some reporting requirements. But my point is we can move through this.

I know there is tremendous pressure on the majority leader to move to class action. My personal feeling is it would be more of a class act to finish the Defense authorization bill first. I think even now we have some amendments the two managers are going to clear, 12 or 15 amendments this morning.

We will work here today to lay down amendments on our side and have the pending amendments, including the Graham amendment.

We want to indicate that we are fully cooperative, and we want to move this bill. We understand the importance of it.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I know the chairman is here and will respond in terms of particulars of the underlying bill. We made good progress. It is an important bill and a bill which we will finish.

My intentions are to in all likelihood move to the class action bill the week we return and address that. Then if we can come up with a reasonable way of finishing this bill—which I am confident we can—I think ultimately when people sit down and say what is important to have on this bill, we will be able to put together amendments on our side and the other side and pull those together and have an orderly way of dealing with those.

I will say that in the big picture the last 2 weeks have been very positive weeks in terms of governing in very difficult times, many of which have been overseen by the chairman of this particular bill, Senator WARNER. It is very tough oversight in terms of what is going on both in Iraq and indeed around the world in the war on terror. At the same time that has been conducted in a very professional way. This institution can be quite proud; we have done some very good things in terms of national security. Three days ago, we passed bioshield legislation. That is a national security issue, one we have worked on for 14 months. A few days ago, we passed the important education bill, the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, which affects 6.5 million children with disabilities.

If you look at the field on jobs and taxation, 2 weeks ago we passed a bill that will impact hundreds of thousands of manufacturing workers called the JOBS bill, a Euro tax that is placed on this country which we have in the Senate effectively eliminated once the House acts. And 2 weeks ago, we passed an international tax relief bill to make sure broadband knowledge can proliferate in this country. All of that is part of governing which has taken place in 2 weeks of very difficult times. I have been very pleased over the last 2 weeks. It shows we can work together and govern—plus the judges on top of that. I think we will see that on this bill and we will see it on the class action bill. I am very optimistic about where we are going.

I am also pleased about what we have done in the last couple of weeks.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005—Resumed

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 2400, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2400) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for each fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Graham (SC) Amendment No. 3170, to provide for the treatment by the Department of Energy of waste material.

Crapo Amendment No. 3226 (to Amendment No. 3170), of a perfecting nature.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, my distinguished colleague, the senior Senator from Michigan, and I will momentarily address some of the pending amendments which have been cleared on both sides. I do, however, note the presence on the floor of two other colleagues. I would suggest to my ranking member that perhaps we could accommodate them, since he and I will be here throughout much of the morning.

Mr. LEVIN. I would be happy to do that, of course.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, while the two managers are on the floor, could I ask a question before I depart?

Mr. WARNER. Of course,

Mr. REID. We have a number of amendments we would like to lay down today and not have those amendments take precedence over the pending amendment, which is the Graham amendment. We want to be able to show the managers of the bill and leadership on the majority side that we want to move this bill. My personal feeling, as I expressed to the majority leader while he was here, is I think it is not the right thing to do to move off this bill and go to something else. I think with some determination we

could start on Tuesday—which is going to be a very short day—work Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and I think we could finish this bill. If we work some long days, I think we could finish it. If we go to class action legislation, that is going to take up a lot of time. Cloture motions need to be filed. I do not know that. I assume so.

My point is if there is anything the two managers of the bill can do to exert their significant influence on the majority to see if we can finish this bill, I think everyone would be well served. The House passed the bill last night by a wide bipartisan margin. I hope we can whittle down some amendments. We could do it, if we work some long days. But I predict if we go off this bill we will never finish it.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I hear very clearly the spoken words of my good friend and colleague. I think of years past when Senator LEVIN and I have greatly benefited by the individual leadership of the Senator from Nevada on the floor when our defense bills have sort of gotten into a rut here and there.

But I encourage my distinguished colleague from Nevada, who heard the words of the majority leader moments ago. Those are decisions that have to rest with the majority and minority leaders. Consequently, I entrust them with those decisions. I hope that pattern of sequencing legislation on the floor will be done in such a way as to meet the requirements of all Senators and proceed. I am confident it will be done. We must, because there is no alternative but to get a bill. This Nation is at war. The men and women of the Armed Forces are deserving of further recognition, which this bill has, together with their families. We send a strong signal throughout the world of America's resolve in its war on terrorism—joined by many other nations—and its resolve to keep our military strong.

I am hopeful the honest difference of views can be reconciled, but it is a matter that is left to the distinguished majority leader in consultation with the distinguished minority leader.

Mr. REID. If I could, Mr. President, I think the distinguished chairman of the committee has made the argument about why we shouldn't get off this bill.

I want everyone to understand the distinguished senior Senator from South Dakota, the Democratic leader, has had nothing to do with moving off this bill. He wants to finish this bill. He feels that is most appropriate.

This class action bill is important legislation, but it pales in comparison to the needs we authorize for these programs for our fighting men and women around the world.

The House bill includes a number of provisions. The $25 billion requested by the administration, as I understand, also legislates the number of troops we would have. If we don't authorize that along with the House, it won't happen. We will wind up going through the appropriations process and appropriating money that has not been authorized in the past.

We need this bill. I repeat, as important as the class action is, it is insignificant compared to what we are doing here. I say to everyone within the sound of my voice, we should do everything we can to finish this bill; otherwise, I think we will not have a Defense authorization bill this year.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I readily acknowledge that yesterday the distinguished Senator from South Dakota was right where I am standing until the closing minutes of yesterday's deliberation. He was trying to move certain matters. But I bring to the attention of the Senator that the distinguished Senator from South Carolina had an amendment and was on the floor. I will leave it to the record. But other Senators said no way; we are going to sit here through the night and debate and debate and debate.

Therefore, I think leadership—myself, Senator LEVIN, and the majority leader—felt there was no purpose in trying to press on. I think we have pretty well covered it. I think we understand our positions.

Unless the Senator has further observations——

Mr. REID. If I could say one more thing—and I will say no more—as I said in my remarks this morning through the Chair, to the distinguished Senator from Tennessee, the majority leader, we felt the best thing to do yesterday was to move off the bill, and Senator HOLLINGS and Senator CANTWELL said when we got back we would finish this phase of the legislation within 2 hours. We agreed to do that.

For reasons that are in the minds of the managers of the bill, there was a decision not to accept it. We want to move forward. I think the Lindsey Graham amendment has been a hiccup here in the process but slowed us down all day yesterday. We think it can be completed very quickly when we get back.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I wonder if the Senator from—the committee chairman would yield for one minute.

I was kind of surprised when I walked in a few minutes late on the floor to hear we are going off this bill. I don't quite understand the logic. I missed the majority leader's statement and I apologize for that. But we have to pick up this bill at some point. I don't know why it is assumed we are going to have any more or less trouble when we get back on this bill than we do right now continuing this bill. We are going to have to resolve the Graham issue and we will. It can be done in a few hours. To just set this bill aside, I am not sure I understand what the reasoning is. It is unusual in the middle of the Defense bill to set it aside for some other less important bill. I missed the explanation of the majority leader. I am surprised.

We have troops in the field. There are many important issues. The chairman knows better than any Member in the Senate. He is the chairman, an incredibly effective chairman of this committee, and he knows what the provisions of this bill are. They include provisions not just on all of the quality of life issues, pay issues, and family issues, but they also include a very important issue on troop strength and the signal we send on that matter. At this moment it seems to me it is one of the most important issues to resolve. We are going to resolve that issue. We will figure out a way to resolve it. The chairman is fully on board with the direction in which this Congress is going. He is certainly aware and understands the importance of dealing with this.

I am really surprised. I will express that surprise. This means we are derailed for at least a week. I cannot imagine the urgency of the bill on class action suits.

I will ask our deputy minority leader as to what the estimate is for that bill. It will take, I assume, the whole week, will it not?

Mr. REID. I doubt very seriously we can finish the class action bill the week we get back. It would be a rare occasion in the annals of legislation that we could finish this very contentious bill. It may pass, but it will pass by a slim margin. I am sure there will have to be a cloture vote on it at some time. It is a bill that need not be done now.

If class action law does not change this whole year, it will be uncomfortable for some people, but it is not a life- or-death matter, as is this bill of the two managers. This class action is a convenience for businesses and lawyers.

Mr. WARNER. I thank my colleague for our colloquy this morning.

I see members of our committee on either side. I suggest, following the distinguished Senator from Colorado, the distinguished Senator from Hawaii be recognized. I make that not as a unanimous consent but as a courtesy, and the Senator from Michigan and I can proceed.

Mr. LEVIN. I wonder if the Senator from Hawaii wishes to speak this morning and whether it would be all right if we sequenced Senator AKAKA immediately after Senator ALLARD, and we will put that in the RECORD. I suggest we make that a unanimous consent.

Mr. WARNER. I make that in the form of a unanimous consent.

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

The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I thank both the chairman and the ranking member on the Armed Services Committee for their courtesy this morning.

I will take a few moments to clear up some of the debate last evening. I would very much have liked to have had a vote on the Lindsey amendment, but I understand how those things happen. I hope we can move forward.

I will address three main issues we left hanging last night. No. 1 is the

proper classification of the wastesites in Hanford in Washington, the Idaho site, and also Savannah River in South Carolina. This program that has been put in place is a waste and incidental reprocessing commonly referred to as WIR in this debate.

First of all, I compliment Jesse Roberson with the Department of Energy. She was instrumental in getting Rocky Flats cleared up ahead of time. We are a little bit ahead of schedule. We are under budget. We have a huge savings in Rocky Flats because of a plan she put in place to accelerate cleanup, as much as $10 billion savings over time because of her plan she helped put in place, consulting with a lot of people in Rocky Flats. She had the capability of working with local elected officials, the employees, and with the congressional delegation to get things like that to happen.

Obviously, everyone—the employees, the local leaders from those communities around Rocky Flats—played a role, but she was the focal point that made all that come together. She is the one who has been working on this issue to enhance and speed up cleanup on these particular nuclear sites. They create some very special problems, very difficult problems. I commend her for being willing to think outside the box and for the tremendous leadership she has shown in that regard.

I will talk a little bit about the classification of waste, then about the fact that we did have hearings, then also about how we have reached out. The proper disposal plan is to leave things in place there at Hanford and Idaho, for example.

Here is the issue as I see it, regarding proper classification. We can get all tied up in terminology, but the point is, what happens to the level of radiation? All these wastes are based on the amount of nuclear radiation. The fact is the Nuclear Regulatory Commission rating is as low-level waste. This is based on good, scientific evidence.

DOE is relying on three key points in classifying the residue as low-level waste. The first point is DOE has removed the vast bulk of the mobile radionuclides that were originally in the tanks; No. 2, that it has solidified and stabilized the remaining radionuclides by using a grout that chemically binds them so as to further limit their mobility; and No. 3, that the stabilized residues meet performance standards specified by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for disposal of low-level waste.

DOE performance assessment shows the residue will produce an annual dose of radioactivity below the Environmental Protection Agency drinking water standard and well below what a person gets from a standard X-ray machine when you go into the doctor's office and get an X-ray, and that the radioactive dose to an inadvertent intruder will be minimal. Therefore, the residues meet the NRC's low-level waste standards.

None of this relies on dilution of the residues but, rather, it relies on classifying the stabilized residues in accordance with the risks they present in a manner consistent with the NRC performance standards which the NRC has specifically identified as the key consideration in classifying this waste.

The Department of Energy has been very responsible in what they have been doing. I am very disappointed the court decision has upset this. Prior to the court decision, it has been my understanding, the State of Washington, the State of Idaho, and the State of North Carolina all agreed on a plan with the DOE for the waste and incidental reprocessing plan. The court case gets filed, they file a friend-of-the-court brief, and everything begins to fall apart.

Initially, the State of Washington, the State of Idaho, under RCRA, were working with the Department of Energy, and nationally under the Clean Water Act, the State of South Carolina was working with DOE. Now the State of South Carolina is ready to move forward. The other two States feel they cannot move forward on this issue. I think it is terrible we would tie up their plans because of problems we have in the other two States. We have to work out something that is fair. We do need to work out something that is fair to all the States.

The Senator from Washington wants to completely demolish these tanks and move them out. What she did not talk about is the risk of going down into those tanks and cleaning them out before you demolish them. As a worker, I am not sure I want to go down there. I think that is a safety hazard beyond comprehension. I do not think anybody is thinking about these aspects of it.

I think what the Department of Energy has come out with, with the grout, is going to immediately seal the leaking tanks so we are not going to have any more pollution. If things don't continue, they are going to continue to pour into the Columbia River in Washington. So I think they have come up with a commonsense solution.

We have had two public hearings in the committee. I have the transcript here. We had one public hearing on February, 25, 2004, and we had the other public hearing on March 23, 2004. We talked about the WIR issue and how to best resolve it.

I would also point out for my colleagues, there has been built at Hanford a low-level waste disposal area. So this is not new, leaving low-level waste in Hanford. I think we need to move forward in a very practical way.

I will have more to say about this when we get back into debate on the armed services bill and we have the Lindsey Graham amendment before us again. These are a few things I wanted to begin to address this morning.

Mr. President, I yield floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Hawaii.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for 15 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Mr. AKAKA and Mr. DURBIN pertaining to the introduction of S. 2475 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

DEDICATION OF WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, before my distinguished colleague departs, a little later this morning I am going to talk about the agenda of the forthcoming ceremonies regarding the dedication of the World War II Memorial. The distinguished Senator from Hawaii, both Senators in fact, served in our military during World War II. My recollection is one Senator went to the European theater; that is, Senator INOUYE, and this distinguished Senator went to the Pacific theater. I thank him for his participation in this memorial. It was first legislated in the Congress and then through the years, when Senator Dole and others were involved in raising non-Federal funds, close to $100 million, to erect the magnificent memorial which will be dedicated a week from tomorrow. I wanted to thank him first for his service on the Armed Services Committee, his enormous interest in the men and women in the Armed Forces, and in our national security.

I have great recollections of when he and I went down with Senator Dole the other day to the memorial.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Virginia. He has been a great leader in our country for our Armed Forces. He has served our country well. He has been a Secretary of the Navy, now chairman of the Armed Services Committee. I tell him, as one member of that committee, that I respect what he is doing. He is doing a great job for the country. He has been up with the sensitive issues that our country faces and has called these hearings that have been very important in clarifying what is happening with our armed services in Iraq and around the world. I commend him highly for what he is doing. I thank him for all of that.

Mr. WARNER. I thank my colleague. The hearings, yes, they were important. We had 100-percent attendance at the three hearings; perhaps one Senator here and there for a while had to depart. It showed bipartisan, tremendous interest, assuming responsibility on behalf of the institution of the United States, our committee developing the facts. It is extremely important because it displayed to the world, particularly the Muslim and Arab world, how America works openly to address its problems to hold those responsible accountable. It is a process that has been begun by the Department of Defense, specifically the Department of the Army. I thank Senator AKAKA for his participation in those hearings.

I rose primarily to say that a week from Saturday will be an important day to both of us. My service in World War II was very modest compared to those of the others. I was simply in a training command, ready to go into the Pacific theater where the Senator from Hawaii was already present. Who knows, I might have been his replacement so he could come on home. Fortunately, the war ended for both of us. I thank the Senator.

My distinguished colleague from Michigan is on other matters. Therefore, until he joins me, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Mr. ALLARD pertaining to the introduction of S. 2474 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. ALLARD. I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, my distinguished colleague and I will now propound a series of cleared amendments to the Senate.

AMENDMENT NO. 3240

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I offer a technical amendment that would delete a provision from the bill that would modify a portion of the Internal Revenue Code and has raised jurisdictional concerns.

The amendment has been cleared on the other side.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), for himself and Mr. LEVIN, proposes an amendment numbered 3240.

The amendment is as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3240

(Purpose: To strike an amendment to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986)

Beginning on page 105, strike line 21 and all that follows through page 106, line 2.

Mr. LEVIN. The amendment has been cleared on this side.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3240) was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3227

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator GRAHAM, I offer an amendment that would clarify the Reserve officers on voluntary extended active duty are not prohibited from accepting payment of any part of salary or wages that a private employer paid to the Reserve officer before his or her call or order to active duty.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER], for Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, proposes an amendment numbered 3227.

The amendment is as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3227

(Purpose: To except from criminal offense the receipt of pay from an employer by a Reservist on active duty in connection with a contingency operation)

On page 280, after line 22, insert the following:

SEC. 1068. RECEIPT OF PAY BY RESERVES FROM CIVILIAN EMPLOYERS WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY IN CONNECTION WITH A CONTINGENCY OPERATION.

Section 209 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(h) This section does not prohibit a member of the reserve components of the armed forces on active duty pursuant to a call or order to active duty under a provision of law referred to in section 101(a)(13) of title 10 from receiving from any person that employed such member before the call or order to active duty any payment of any part of the salary or wages that such person would have paid the member if the member's employment had not been interrupted by such call or order to active duty.''.

Mr. LEVIN. The amendment has been cleared on this side, Mr. President.

Mr. WARNER. I urge adoption of the amendment.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3227) was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3171

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator LANDRIEU, I offer an amendment that would authorize the veterans service organizations to participate in preseparation counseling provided to service members and to brief members of Reserve units after release from active service regarding VA benefits.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], for Ms. LANDRIEU, proposes an amendment numbered 3171.

The amendment is as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3171

(Purpose: To authorize representatives of veterans service organizations to appear at preseparation counseling provided by the Department of Defense)

At the end of subtitle H of title V, insert the following:

SEC. 574. APPEARANCE OF VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS AT PRESEPARATION COUNSELING PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

(a) APPEARANCE TO COUNSELING FOR DISCHARGE OR RELEASE FROM ACTIVE DUTY.—Section 1142 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) APPEARANCE BY VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS.—(1) The Secretary concerned may permit a representative of a veterans service organization to appear at and participate in any preseparation counseling provided to a member of the armed forces under this section.

''(2) For purposes of this subsection, a veterans service organization is any organization recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the representation of veterans under section 5902 of title 38.''.

(b) MEETING WITH RESERVES RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY FOR FURTHER SERVICE IN THE RESERVES.—(1) A unit of a reserve component on active duty in the Armed Forces may, upon release from active duty in the Armed Forces for further service in the reserve components, meet with a veterans service organization for information and assistance relating to such release if the commander of the unit authorizes the meeting.

(2) The time of a meeting for a unit under paragraph (1) may be scheduled by the commander of the unit for such time after the release of the unit as described in that paragraph as the commander of the unit determines appropriate to maximize the benefit of the meeting to the members of the unit.

(3) For purposes of this subsection, a veterans service organization is any organization recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the representation of veterans under section 5902 of title 38, United States Code.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, the amendment has been cleared on this side, and I ask to be made a cosponsor of this very important amendment.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3171) was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. WARNER. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3228, AS MODIFIED

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator GRAHAM of South Carolina, I offer an amendment which adds $3 million for critical infrastructure system security engineering.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER], for Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, proposes an amendment numbered 3228, as modified.

The amendment is as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3228, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To increase by $3,000,000 the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(2) for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Navy and make the increase available for infrastructure system security engineering development, and to provide an offset)

At the end of subtitle B of title II, add the following:

SEC. 217. INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEM SECURITY ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT FOR THE NAVY.

(a) INCREASE IN AMOUNT FOR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION, NAVY.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(2) for research, development, test, and evaluation, Navy, is hereby increased by $3,000,000.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEM SECURITY ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(2) for research, development, test, and evaluation, Navy, as increased by subsection (a), $3,000,000 may be available for infrastructure system security engineering development.

(c) OFFSET.—(1) The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 101(5) for other procurement, Army, is hereby reduced by $1,000,000, with the amount of the reduction to be allocated to Buffalo Landmine Vehicles.

(2) The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 102(b) for procurement for the Marine Corps is hereby reduced by $500,000, with the amount of the reduction to be allocated to Combat Casualty Care.

(3) The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(1) for research, development, test, and evaluation, Army, is hereby reduced by $1,000,000, with the amount of the reduction to the allocated to Active Coating Technology.

(4) The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(4) for research, development, test, and evaluation, Defense-wide activities, is hereby reduced by $500,000, with the amount of the reduction to be allocated to Radiation Hardened Complementary Metal Oxide Semi-Conductors.

Mr. LEVIN. The amendment has been cleared on this side, Mr. President.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3228), as modified, was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3241

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator BEN NELSON of Nebraska, I offer an amendment which would increase funding for neurotoxin research.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], for Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, proposes an amendment numbered 3241.

The amendment is as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3241

(Purpose: To increase by $2,000,000 the amount authorized to be appropriated for research, development, test, and evaluation, Defense-wide activities, and make the increase available for neurotoxin mitigation research, and to provide an offset)

At the end of subtitle B of title II, add the following:

SEC. 217. NEUROTOXIN MITIGATION RESEARCH.

(a) INCREASE IN AMOUNT FOR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(4) for research, development, test, and evaluation, Defense-wide activities, is hereby increased by $2,000,000.

(b) AVAILABILITY FOR NEUROTOXIN MITIGATION RESEARCH.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(4) for research, development, test, and evaluation, Defense-wide activities, as increased by subsection (a), $2,000,000 may be available in Program Element PE 62384BP for neurotoxin mitigation research.

(c) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 301(1) for operation and maintenance for the Army is hereby reduced by $2,000,000, with the amount of the reduction to be allocated to Satellite Communications Language training activity (SCOLA) at the Army Defense Language Institute.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, the amendment has been cleared on this side.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3241) was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. WARNER. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3242

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator GRASSLEY of Iowa, I offer an amendment that improves the ability of Army industrial facilities to enter into public-private partnerships.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER], for Mr. GRASSLEY, for himself, Mr. FITZGERALD, and Mr. SESSIONS, proposes an amendment numbered 3242.

The amendment is as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3242

On page 58, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 364. CONSOLIDATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF AUTHORITIES FOR ARMY WORKING-CAPITAL FUNDED FACILITIES TO ENGAGE IN PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.

(a) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AUTHORIZED.—Chapter 433 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 4544. Army industrial facilities: public-private partnerships

''(a) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AUTHORIZED.—A working-capital funded Army industrial facility may enter into cooperative arrangements with non-Army entities to carry out military or commercial projects with the non-Army entities. A cooperative arrangement under this section shall be known as a 'public-private partnership'.

''(b) AUTHORIZED PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES.—A public-private partnership entered into by an Army industrial facility may provide for any of the following activities:

''(1) The sale of articles manufactured by the facility or services performed by the facility to persons outside the Department of Defense.

''(2) The performance of—

''(A) work by a non-Army entity at the facility; or

''(B) work for a non-Army entity by the facility.

''(3) The sharing of work by the facility and one or more non-Army entities.

''(4) The leasing, or use under a facilities use contract or otherwise, of the facility (including excess capacity) or equipment (including excess equipment) of the facility by a non-Army entity.

''(5) The preparation and submission of joint offers by the facility and one or more non-Army entities for competitive procurements entered into with a department or agency of the United States.

''(c) CONDITIONS FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.—An activity described in subsection (b) may be carried out as a public-private partnership at an Army industrial facility only under the following conditions:

''(1) In the case of an article to be manufactured or services to be performed by the facility, the articles can be substantially manufactured, or the services can be substantially performed, by the facility without subcontracting for more than incidental performance.

''(2) The activity does not interfere with performance of—

''(A) work by the facility for the Department of Defense; or

''(B) a military mission of the facility.

''(3) The activity meets one of the following objectives:

''(A) Maximize utilization of the capacity of the facility.

''(B) Reduction or elimination of the cost of ownership of the facility.

''(C) Reduction in the cost of manufacturing or maintaining Department of Defense products at the facility.

''(D) Preservation of skills or equipment related to a core competency of the facility.

''(4) The non-Army entity partner or purchaser agrees to hold harmless and indemnify the United States from any liability or claim for damages or injury to any person or property arising out of the activity, including any damages or injury arising out of a decision by the Secretary of the Army or the Secretary of Defense to suspend or terminate an activity, or any portion thereof, during a war or national emergency or to require the facility to perform other work or provide other services on a priority basis, except—

''(A) in any case of willful misconduct or gross negligence; and

''(B) in the case of a claim by a purchaser of articles or services under this section that damages or injury arose from the failure of the Government to comply with quality, schedule, or cost performance requirements in the contract to carry out the activity.

''(d) METHODS OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.—To conduct an activity of a public-private partnership under this section, the approval authority described in subsection (f) for an Army industrial facility may, in the exercise of good business judgment—

''(1) enter into a firm, fixed-price contract (or, if agreed to by the purchaser, a cost reimbursement contract) for a sale of articles or services or use of equipment or facilities;

''(2) enter into a multiyear partnership contract for a period not to exceed five

years, unless a longer period is specifically authorized by law;

''(3) charge a partner the amounts necessary to recover the full costs of the articles or services provided, including capital improvement costs, and equipment depreciation costs associated with providing the articles, services, equipment, or facilities;

''(4) authorize a partner to use incremental funding to pay for the articles, services, or use of equipment or facilities; and

''(5) accept payment-in-kind.

''(e) DEPOSIT OF PROCEEDS.—(1) The proceeds of sales of articles and services received in connection with the use of an Army industrial facility under this section shall be credited to the appropriation or working-capital fund that incurs the variable costs of manufacturing the articles or performing the services. Notwithstanding section 3302(b) of title 31, the amount so credited with respect to an Army industrial facility shall be available, without further appropriation, as follows:

''(A) Amounts equal to the amounts of the variable costs so incurred shall be available for the same purposes as the appropriation or working-capital fund to which credited.

''(B) Amounts in excess of the amounts of the variable costs so incurred shall be available for operations, maintenance, and environmental restoration at that Army industrial facility.

''(2) Amounts credited to a working-capital fund under paragraph (1) shall remain available until expended. Amounts credited to an appropriation under paragraph (1) shall remain available for the same period as the appropriation to which credited.

''(f) APPROVAL OF SALES.—The authority of an Army industrial facility to conduct a public-private partnership under this section shall be exercised at the level of the commander of the major subordinate command of the Army that has responsibility for the facility. The commander may approve such partnership on a case basis or a class basis.

''(g) COMMERCIAL SALES.—Except in the case of work performed for the Department of Defense, for a contract of the Department of Defense, for foreign military sales, or for authorized foreign direct commercial sales (defense articles or defense services sold to a foreign government or international organization under export controls), a sale of articles or services may be made under this section only if the approval authority described in subsection (f) determines that the articles or services are not available from a commercial source located in the United States in the required quantity or quality, or within the time required.

''(h) EXCLUSION FROM DEPOT-LEVEL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR PERCENTAGE LIMITATION.—Amounts expended for depot-level maintenance and repair workload by non-Federal personnel at an Army industrial facility shall not be counted for purposes of applying the percentage limitation in section 2466(a) of this title if the personnel are provided by a non-Army entity pursuant to a public-private partnership established under this section.

''(i) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the application of—

''(1) foreign military sales and the export controls provided for in sections 30 and 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2770 and 2778) to activities of a public-private partnership under this section; and

''(2) section 2667 of this title to leases of non-excess property in the administration of a public-private partnership under this section.

''(j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) The term 'Army industrial facility' includes an ammunition plant, an arsenal, a depot, and a manufacturing plant.

''(2) The term 'non-Army entity' includes the following:

''(A) An executive agency.

''(B) An entity in industry or commercial sales.

''(C) A State or political subdivision of a State.

''(D) An institution of higher education or vocational training institution.

''(3) The term 'incremental funding' means a series of partial payments that—

''(A) are made as the work on manufacture or articles is being performed or services are being performed or equipment or facilities are used, as the case may be; and

''(B) result in full payment being completed as the required work is being completed.

''(4) The term 'full costs', with respect to articles or services provided under this section, means the variable costs and the fixed costs that are directly related to the production of the articles or the provision of the services.

''(5) The term 'variable costs' means the costs that are expected to fluctuate directly with the volume of sales or services provided or the use of equipment or facilities.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''4544. Army industrial facilities: public-private partnerships.''.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I believe the amendment has been cleared.

Mr. LEVIN. I thank my friend. The amendment has been cleared on this side.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3242) was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3243

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator FEINSTEIN, I offer an amendment which would authorize the Air Force to convey a parcel of property at March Air Force Base to the local redevelopment authority at fair market value.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], for Mrs. FEINSTEIN, proposes an amendment numbered 3243.

The amendment is as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3243

(Purpose: To provide for the conveyance of land at March Air Force Base, California)

On page 365, between lines 18 and 19, insert the following:

SEC. 2830. LAND CONVEYANCE, MARCH AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA.

(a) CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of the Air Force may convey to the March Joint Powers Authority (in this section referred to as the ''MJPA'') all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of real property, including any improvements thereon, consisting of approximately 15 acres located in Riverside County, California, and containing the former Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office facility for March Air Force Base, which is also known as Parcel A–6, for the purpose of economic development and revitalization.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—(1) As consideration for the conveyance of property under subsection (a), the MJPA shall pay the United States an amount equal to the fair market value, as determined by the Secretary, of the property to be conveyed under such subsection.

(2) The consideration received under this subsection shall be deposited in the special account in the Treasury established under section 572(b) of title 40, United States Code, and available in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (5)(B)(ii).

(c) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—The exact acreage and legal description of the real property to be conveyed under subsection (a) shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary. The cost of the survey shall be borne by the MJPA.

(d) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance under subsection (a) as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, the amendment has been cleared on this side.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3243) was agreed to.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. WARNER. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3166, AS MODIFIED

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator SANTORUM, I offer an amendment which requires a report on the maturity and effectiveness of the global information grid network.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER], for Mr. SANTORUM, proposes an amendment numbered 3166, as modified.

The amendment is as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 3166, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To require a report on the maturity and effectiveness of the Global Information Grid-Bandwidth Expansion (GIG–BE) network)

On page 25, between lines 15 and 16, insert the following:

SEC. 142. REPORT ON MATURITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GLOBAL INFORMATION GRID BANDWIDTH EXPANSION (GIG-BE) NETWORK.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later that 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report on a test program to demonstrate the maturity and effectiveness of the Global Information Grid-Bandwidth Expansion (GIG–BE) network architecture.

(b) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report under subsection (a) shall—

(1) determine whether the results of the test program described in subsection (a) demonstrate compliance of the GIG–BE architecture with the overall goals of the GIG–BE program;

(2) identify—

(A) the extent to which the GIG-BE architecture does not meet the overall goals of the program; and

(B) the components that are not yet sufficiently developed to achieve the overall goals of the program;

(3) include a plan and cost estimates for achieving compliance; and

(4) document the equipment and network configuration used to demonstrate real-world scenarios within the continental United States.

Mr. LEVIN. The amendment has been cleared on this side, Mr. President.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3166), as modified, was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. LEVIN. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ALLARD. I ask to speak as in morning business for the purpose of my remarks only and then return to regular business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUPPORTING THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise this morning to talk about the remarkable record of leadership and achievement we have seen from this administration over the past 3 years in keeping America prosperous, safe, and secure. During this time our Nation and our President have confronted a series of crises and challenges that I believe are unmatched during any administration in recent history. Whether the challenge has been to our economic, social, or national security, President Bush has demonstrated courage, vision, and decisiveness in addressing these threats and challenges.

At the outset of his term in office the President faced a significant threat to our economic security requiring immediate action. On January 20, 2001, the day President Bush was sworn into office, our economy was several months into a recession, what I call the ''Clinton recession.'' Later, over the next few months, America faced extraordinary adversity from the terrorist attacks of 9/11. This devastating event, combined with the unprecedented crises in corporate governance and accountability, demanded action on numerous levels. The President acted swiftly and decisively by securing from the Congress a series of tax cuts to stimulate business investment, preserve consumer confidence, and expand today's economic recovery into lasting prosperity for all Americans.

The President's actions averted disaster. We experienced one of the shortest and shallowest recessions of modern American history. By all accounts, the economy is on very solid footing now because of the President's actions.

For example, today we see 10 consecutive quarters of strong economic growth relative to gross domestic product. In fact, our economy averaged an annualized 5.5 percent growth over the last 3 quarters, the strongest three-quarter performance in 20 years. Manufacturing activity is rebounding. Since this time last year, the United States has led all major economies of the world with the highest manufacturing output expansion. This is in addition to our service economy, which also continues to outperform every other service economy around the globe. Recent corporate earnings reports are bullish, and investor confidence is rebounding, reflected by the 35 to 50 percent gains in major market indices since the fall of 2002. This includes a $4 trillion increase in the total market capitalization of the New York Stock Exchange. Inflation remains low by historical standards, at or below a very manageable 3 percent annual rate. Business investment is rising steadily, fueled largely by double-digit growth in equipment and software spending, and by growing inventory investment. Consumer spending growth is accelerating due to real gains in wages, salaries, and in disposable personal income, boosted largely by lower taxes. And, residential construction spending remains strong, and as of March 2004, both existing and new home sales accelerated to record levels. This translates into the highest national homeownership rate in our Nation's history, a record 69 percent.

Moreover, looking at the lagging indicator of job creation, recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics now confirm the recovery. The payroll survey shows over a million jobs created over the past 8 months.

More importantly, the household survey, which is not often cited in the public media, shows that over 2 million new jobs have been created since November 2001, when the ''Clinton'' recession was finally reversed. Just in the last 2 months, more than 600,000 new jobs have been created.

The President now faces new economic challenges, this time from many Members on the other side of the aisle who believe we need to undo President Bush's tax cuts. As we move closer to the November Presidential election, the political rhetoric from the other side is trying to convince us that the economy is much worse off than the facts demonstrate. Reversing the Bush tax cuts, as the Democrats propose, will only serve to reverse the economic growth we are now experiencing and that we project through the decade. We must all support the President in fending off increased ''tax-and-spend'' proposals.

This President has also recognized and acted decisively to turn back significant threats to our families and our values. I believe the previous administration neglected several major challenges to the security of our seniors, our families, and our children. President Bush, on the other hand, is moving aggressively and decisively to defeat these challenges and make our families more secure.

Our senior citizens are threatened by increasing health care costs and limited access to affordable medicines they need. The President developed and enacted historic Medicare modernization and prescription drug reforms. These initiatives enable seniors to get the medicines they need at discounted prices, and expand freedom for Americans to choose among healthcare providers and plans based on their individual needs. Further, the President's action makes sure low-income seniors receive additional financial assistance so they will not have to pay more to receive better benefits than they currently do under Medicare.

Our families, more specifically the parents, are under assault by activist courts around the country undermining the sanctity of marriage. Not only are these courts overstepping their constitutional authority, but also they are trampling fundamental values and institutions held dear by the vast majority of Americans. The President stepped forward and joined several of us from the Congress to put down this assault decisively. While I do not take the amending of the constitution lightly, the proposed Constitutional amendment is our only recourse in preserving marriage in the United States as the union of only a man and a woman.

Dumbed-down educational standards and sub-par learning institutions threaten the well-being and development of our children. The President brought forward another major reform with his No Child Left Behind initiative to instill higher, modern standards for performance in reading and math. The President has increased education spending nearly 25 percent over his predecessor—an $11 billion increase. This includes an increase of more than 30 percent for disadvantaged student programs, as well as tripling resources for effective reading programs for our youth.

Moreover, the President's leadership restores to local officials the power and resources to establish programs and practices that work in their respective communities.

Again, another example of extraordinary leadership backed by resources, compassion, and commitment. The President has been nothing but visionary and steadfast in protecting our families and our way of life.

Today, the President is leading our Nation through another major crisis in the fight against Muslim extremists seeking to destroy our people, our livelihoods, and our liberties at home and abroad. We are a Nation at war—a global war on terror. This is not a war we started, but a war we will finish.

Unlike his predecessor, President Bush has demonstrated to this Nation, indeed to the world, that he has the vision, the courage, and the fortitude to lead a global coalition to fight this enemy whenever and wherever is needed. The President will not shirk his duties to guarantee the safety and security of Americans or freedom-loving peoples around the globe.

The enemy in this war did not mysteriously appear for the first time on September 11, 2001. Rather, this enemy has been consistently attacking the United States for over two decades. Unfortunately, over this period of time, our country's response to this growing threat was entirely inadequate, inconsistent, and inexcusable. Let me describe for you the evolution of our enemy in this global war on terror.

In 1979, a band of Islamic fundamentalists, led by the Ayatollah Khomeini, successfully overthrew the Shah's government of Iran as America stood by and watched. Nearly a year later, these fundamentalists stormed the U.S. Embassy and took the American staff hostage for 444 days. President Carter's response at the time: cancel Iranian travel visas and seek UN diplomatic assistance.

In 1982, Muslim extremists bombed our Embassy in Beirut. The U.S. did not respond against the extremists. Six months later, the extremists bombed the U.S. marines' barracks and 241 U.S. servicemen were killed and another 80 were seriously wounded. This time, the U.S. response came from the Democratic-controlled Congress in the form of a resolution to withdraw all troops from the area. Unfortunately, as the 1983 presidential election drew near, President Reagan acquiesced. There was, and remains, an important lesson to be learned here for all Members of this body: our enemy perceives vulnerability during U.S. presidential election years. During this time we must redouble our vigilance and resist the internal sniping for mere political expediency.

In 1985, Muslim extremists hijacked an Italian cruise ship, the Achille Lauro. In a specific act of defiance toward the United States, the terrorists murdered 69-year-old Leon Klinghoffer, tossing his dead body and wheelchair overboard into the sea. The terrorists were offered a deal by ''our allies'' for safe passage by ending the hijacking. When the hijackers were traveling to their new destination, President Reagan launched our military fighters to intercept and redirect their airliner to Sicily, Italy. After a few years in prison, the Italians set them free. The Muslim extremists then took up sanctuary with Saddam Hussein in Iraq.

In 1986, Muslim extremists affiliated with Libya's Colonel Qadhafi bombed a West Berlin nightclub frequented by American servicemen. Two American soldiers were killed. Ten days later, President Reagan authorized an air strike in Tripoli and Benghazi, Libya, from bases in England. The mission was somewhat complicated by the French denying us use of their airspace during the mission.

In 1988, Muslim extremists, again sanctioned by the Libyan government, destroyed Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. No direct action was taken by either the U.S. or British governments.

In 1990, Saddam Hussein invaded oil-rich Kuwait. President George Herbert Walker Bush moved U.S. forces quickly to block further Iraqi advances while mobilizing a large international coalition force that ultimately expelled a decimated Iraqi military from Kuwait. Most Democrats in Congress voted against this use of force. Now, many of the same are saying that we did not go far enough at that time.

One of our key allies during the 1991 Gulf War was the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Following hostilities, the U.S. and Saudi Arabia forged closer military, economic, and political relations. One wealthy Saudi extremist took exception to this relationship and vowed to ''wage war against the American crusaders.'' This Saudi's name was Osama bin Laden.

From that point forward, we have been victimized by a string of direct attacks by bin Laden's al-Qaida network—both at home and abroad.

In 1993, al-Qaida exploded bombs in the garage of the World Trade Center towers, killing 5 Americans and injuring hundreds. President Clinton, at this time being advised by national security staff official Richard Clarke, did nothing in response.

Later in 1993, 18 American soldiers were killed in Somalia, and the body of one soldier was dragged through the streets of Mogadishu before a cheering band of Somalis and al-Qaida. President Clinton's immediate response was the withdrawal of all troops from Somalia. No action was taken against those responsible. ABC News reported Osama bin Laden saying that al-Qaida soldiers:

realized more than before that the American soldier was a paper tiger and after a few blows ran in shame and disgrace.

In 1995, in Saudi Arabia, al-Qaida killed 5 and injured 30 Americans in a homicide bomb attack. A few months later, homicide car-bombers attacked U.S. military facilities at the Khobar Towers, killing 19 and injuring nearly 500 Americans. The perpetrators of these cowardly attacks all escaped. The U.S. did not respond.

In 1998, al-Qaida bombed the U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, killing 224 people, including 12 Americans, and injuring over 5,400 in all. The U.S. did not respond.

In 2000, al-Qaida bombed the USS *Cole*, killing 17 and wounding another couple dozen of American sailors. The U.S. did not respond.

Over the course of these 7 years, al-Qaida carried out multiple attacks against the United States. As the current National Security Advisor recently testified, it was clear that ''the enemy was at war with the United States.'' However, President Clinton, and his top counter-terrorist advisor Richard Clarke, did not go to war with the enemy.

It is reasonable to conclude that our failed history to deal promptly and decisively with al-Qaida, at any point during this period, only served to embolden Bin Laden and his criminal band of extremists.

Perhaps our failure emboldened others in the same way. During the latter part of the 1990s, Saddam Hussein began a campaign of actions increasingly more defiant of U.S. and UN imposed sanctions.

In 1996, Saddam unleashed his forces on the Kurdish city of Erbil destroying U.S.-sponsored resistance organizations and executing U.S.-backed resistance fighters. In 1997, Hussein bullied UN inspectors, preventing them from performing their mission. He also threatened to shoot down American surveillance planes aiding the inspection program.

In 1998, President Clinton threatened to bomb Iraq, but he did not follow through after the United Nations urged restraint. Later that year, Hussein kicked the UN inspectors out of Iraq all together. Over the next several years, Iraqi air defense units repeatedly shot at our military aircraft enforcing the UN sanctioned ''no fly'' zones.

On more than one occasion, President Clinton launched limited, and arguably ineffective, aircraft and cruise missile strikes in Iraq to no avail.

By the time President Bush took office in 2001, the determination and sophistication of our enemies were already well established. Unfortunately, our reputation of standing up to these criminal terror organizations and despots had decayed to a dangerous level.

President Bush immediately set forth new policy and strategies, scrapping the ''containment'' policy in favor of a more comprehensive and decisive course of action to eliminate the al-Qaida enemy completely. The horrendous events of 9/11, barely seven months into his administration, demanded urgent and unambiguous action from the President. Without hesitation, President Bush directed his cabinet to prepare a decisive response against the murderous al-Qaida organization, including terrorist affiliates, and those foreign governments that sponsor and shelter the terrorists.

As I said earlier, we didn't start this war—the global war on terror but we are going to finish it. Under President Bush's leadership over the past two-plus years, the United States has dealt a crippling blow to world terror organizations. Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld summarized it best for us earlier this year when he reported that our armed forces have overthrown two terrorist regimes, rescued two nations, and liberated some 50 million people; captured

or killed close to two-thirds of known senior al-Qaida operatives; captured or killed 45 of the 55 most wanted in Iraq, including Iraq's deposed dictator, Saddam Hussein; hunted down thousands of terrorists and regime remnants in Afghanistan and Iraq; disrupted terrorist cells on most continents; and likely prevented a number of planned attacks. This is an astounding record of accomplishment for our commander-in-chief, his national security staff, and the phenomenal men and women of our military services.

I believe we are already seeing huge dividends from our actions in Operation Iraqi Freedom. We have demonstrated to the Middle East region, and indeed to the world, that the U.S. is willing to go to war over weapons of mass destruction, even at the risk of significant loss of life. This action sent an extraordinarily powerful message to all—there will be significant consequences of possessing, or attempting to acquire, weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles. This increased risk perception among potential adversaries, or threat of U.S. action, is now opening the door to diplomatic action to roll back illicit weapons and ballistic missile development programs.

This is evident in Libya, where Colonel Qadhafi is now voluntarily turning over his weapons and secrets to the United Kingdom and United States intelligence officers. It turns out that Egypt was a major supplier to Libya, so now Egypt is getting out of the ballistic missile trade as well. This is evident in Syria, which is now engaged with U.S. Defense and State Department officials in divesting its ballistic missile enhancement programs while secretly trying to relocate their ballistic missile inventory in neighboring countries. Further, this is evident in Iran, which has now ''come clean'' in reporting its military nuclear programs and is opening up to more stringent inspections.

We are seeing encouraging results with the decline of trans-national terrorism as well. Recently, the U.S. State Department released its annual report on Patterns of Global Terrorism, prepared by the Office of the Coordinator for Counter-Terrorism. The findings and conclusions are promising and further evidence that President Bush's vision and decisiveness are bringing about positive change.

For example, in 2001, during the President's first year in office, there were 346 terrorist attacks world-wide. In 2003, that number was down to 190—a 45% reduction in just two years. In 2001, there were 219 anti-U.S. attacks worldwide. In 2003, there were 82—a 62% reduction in just two years.

I believe these dramatic results are a direct result of George Bush's decision to declare war—not declare a police action or declare a negotiating strategy—but a global war against terrorists and those who harbor them. U.S.-led efforts are successfully attacking terrorists' training facilities, hideouts, weapons centers, financial institutions, and travel and logistics routes. Of course, this is in addition to our recent destruction of the two largest terrorist-sponsoring regimes in Afghanistan and Iraq.

However, we cannot rest on our laurels. The war continues. We must capture or destroy Osama bin Laden and his comrades-in-hiding. We must defeat the terror and criminal elements that continue to kill indiscriminately in Iraq. We must finish the reconstruction of the political and municipal infrastructure for both the Afghani and Iraqi people. We are on the verge of seeing new democracies take root, offering the promise of lasting peace and stability for this region that has grown accustomed to tyranny after decades of oppression and terror.

Equally important, we must continue the offensive against other Muslim extremist organizations around the globe, denying these potential killers the opportunity to plan, prepare, or execute further acts of terror. President Bush is the visionary, the proven leader, and the commander-in-chief who will see this through and keep America safe and secure.

The facts are in. The results are conclusive. We are winning the war against terror with persistence and will. We are keeping America prosperous with pro-growth tax and business policies. We are enriching our families with commonsense social and educational reforms. I believe most Americans recognize this record of extraordinary accomplishment. And I believe that Americans are extremely proud of the leadership, courage, commitment, and results of President George W. Bush.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. DOLE). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant journal clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, the pending business is the Defense bill, but to accommodate Senators for matters that are not directly related, Senator LEVIN and I are perfectly willing to have other speakers.

I see my distinguished colleague, the Senator from North Dakota. How much time does the Senator desire?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Madam President, let me request 10 minutes in morning business. If I see the Senator from Virginia desiring the floor, I certainly will not continue.

Mr. WARNER. Go right ahead for 10 minutes.

Whatever flexibility the Senator may desire, Senator LEVIN and I are pleased to accommodate the Senator.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

GAS PRICES

Mr. DORGAN. Madam President, this week the Congress and the White House have spent a fair amount of time talking about the subject of gasoline prices. Gas prices are now averaging over $2 a gallon across the country. It is a serious problem for American families, for American businesses, and for industries such as the airlines. I will talk a bit about that.

Elbows and wrists and hands are nearly out of joint from every side of the political spectrum pointing fingers during the last week about who is responsible for this or that or the other thing, who is responsible for high oil prices. That is counterproductive.

However, we cannot, all of us, decide that this is not happening on our watch. It is. We cannot decide that it is not of consequence. It certainly is of great consequence to our country, to our economy, and to American families.

I pulled up behind an old Chevrolet one day at a 40A stop in North Dakota some while ago. This 15- or 20-year-old Chevrolet had a bumper sticker on the back bumper, half of which was sort of tilted downward from previous beatings. The bumper sticker said ''I fought the gas war and gas won.''

I thought to myself, that is a prophetic bumper sticker. It is hard to fight a gas war and win when we have all of these events conspired against us. We have OPEC countries that control a substantial amount of product which have formed a cartel and they decide what they are pumping and what they will send to the oil pipelines around the world.

In addition to that, the oil companies themselves have gotten bigger and bigger and bigger, behemoth companies that control substantial amounts of product.

Then we have the consumer at the end of the line. They take the gas hose out of the socket at the gas station, they put it in the gas tank and start pumping, and there is not a thing they can do except pay the price, whatever the price is.

Why is this important, especially for rural States? I come from a rural State in this country. In rural States, we drive a lot more. We use a lot more fuel. I come from a State that is 10 times the size of Massachusetts in landmass. North Dakota is 10 Massachusetts in landmass. Yet we have 642,000 people spread out in that big old landmass. It is not much of anything to drive 50 miles or 100 miles or 200 miles to do a piece of business or to see relatives. Do that on the east coast, and they want to pack a tent in case they have trouble driving 50 miles.

But in our State we drive a lot, and we have a farming industry that uses a lot of fuel. So in the State of North Dakota, for example, per capita, we use twice as much gasoline as they would in New York per capita. That means

the burden of these increased gas prices is double in a rural State such as ours what it is on other drivers in some of the more populous States where they use less and drive less.

I am not saying all Americans are not having problems pulling up to the gas pump and paying $2 a gallon, but I am saying this especially hurts rural States whose consumers per person pay a much higher amount of the gas tax because they use more gasoline.

So what do we do about all this? Well, we can do as we have done for the last week or two, and keep pointing back and forth, or we can decide to take some action. A couple obvious things we ought to do are: One, we are putting nearly 150,000 barrels of oil a day underground in Louisiana in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve that is 96-percent full. I support what is called SPR, the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. We ought to have that in case of an international problem, a national emergency. That is why we are putting that oil away. But in times of tight supplies, when the price of gasoline has gone to $2 a gallon, it makes no sense to take 150,000 barrels off the supply and put it underground in Louisiana.

Step one, I think the President ought to immediately—right now, today—stop that. That will add to supply, take some of the pressure off increasing prices. That ought to happen now—right now.

Second, there is a meeting this week in Amsterdam. The Secretary of Energy is going to Amsterdam. We need to jawbone—really jawbone—the OPEC countries and say to them: You need to increase production during this intermittent period. During this summer period, you need to increase production, get more oil into that pipeline.

The Saudis have called for that. But I must say, the Saudis have also been part of the problem in the past. When you have the amount of oil that is controlled by a few countries, which control a substantial amount of the oil in this world, and they make decisions about supply, it can have a profound impact on this country.

We ought to have, immediately, the President jawboning these OPEC countries. The Secretary of Energy ought to apply diplomatic pressure to these countries to say we need additional oil in that pipeline now.

Let me also say this. This is about the tenth wake-up call we have had on this issue of being held hostage to the OPEC countries. We get much of our oil to fuel the American economy from very troubled parts of the world. God forbid some morning we wake up and terrorists have severed the oil pipelines that send a substantial amount of oil to our country and our economy becomes flat on its back.

We need to understand this cannot work. Sixty percent of the oil we need to run this country's economy comes from off our shores, and much of it from very troubled parts of the world.

We need a project—I don't care; I call it an ''Apollo'' project, some call it a ''Manhattan'' project—we need a project that says: In the coming years we need to find a way to stop running gasoline through American carburetors. We have been driving cars for 100 years, and 100 years ago, you pulled up to a gas pump and put gasoline in your car the same way you do with a 2004 Ford or a 2002 Chevy. Nothing has changed. New cars are fueled the same way old cars were fueled. Nothing has changed in a century.

Everything about us has changed except we are still dependent, we still have this addiction to oil that comes from the OPEC countries. Why? Because we need to run it through a carburetor someplace in order to make our car go.

Well, look, hydrogen fuel cells are in our future. Do you know what you put out the tailpipe of a hydrogen fuel-cell car? Water vapor. You don't pollute the air. You put water vapor out the tailpipe. You have twice the effective power going to the wheels with hydrogen fuel cells. Why aren't we doing it? Because this country has not ratcheted up the energy and the decision to say, on a ''Manhattan'' project basis or an ''Apollo'' project basis: We are going to do this.

This ought to be equivalent to saying we are going to send a person to the moon. But somehow we are not there. So we need to take short-term steps and longer term steps, but we need to understand this is urgent, this is an emergency.

There are few things as important to this country as an energy policy that works, one that incentivizes production, one that provides for conservation, one that provides for renewable forms of energy, greater efficiency of all the things we use in our daily lives.

While I do not want to point the finger here today, I do want to say that which I have heard all week is a little disturbing. The White House spokesman comes out every day and says: Well, the problem is down there. They did not pass an energy bill. Well, everyone knows why we did not pass an energy bill. It failed by 2 votes in the Senate. We did not pass an energy bill because of a pernicious provision put in that bill, put in by the majority leader of the House, which he knew would derail that bill in the Senate, providing a retroactive waiver of liability for MTBE.

That provision was put in in a manner that he knew would cause the Energy bill to fail in the Senate. So that yoke of responsibility ought to lay where it is appropriate, in my judgment.

PARTISANSHIP

Madam President, I have been talking about gasoline and gasoline prices. We have a lot of challenges in our lives at the moment. We have a war in Iraq. We have a continuing war in Afghanistan. We have a range of both domestic and international issues that require our attention.

I was distressed yesterday to read in a newspaper a little piece that kind of describes the dilemma we have. We have this problem, and the problem is an incessant amount of partisanship around here. We have people who come to this town and say: We are going to bring people together. I see no evidence of it. The suggestion is the only way we can do business is to have one party do it, and exclude the other party.

We made some progress this week. It is interesting, the highway bill is a very important piece of legislation for our country. It should have been done last year. It was not. It is going to be done this year, I hope. Only yesterday we appointed conferees.

I want to show you what bothered me yesterday about all of that. Quoting the article, it says:

> . . . conservative leaders said the White House and the Senate leadership committed a tactical error by compromising with Daschle, which they say has undermined what had been their strategy on judges. . . .

The spokesperson, Connie Mackey, is the vice president of government affairs at the Family Research Council.

> ''We don't see the point,'' said Mackey, who declined to discuss the specifics of the meeting. ''The strategy all along has been to show the obstructionist tactics of the Democrats. [Now] we've lost that tactic.''

What are we going to do? Our goal has been to be able to call somebody obstructionist, but all of a sudden we have this cooperation going on, and we have lost this ability. What are we going to do?

This describes the rancid partisanship that exists around here, and I hope it will stop.

My colleague, Senator WARNER from Virginia—I don't know that I have ever heard anyone ever call him partisan. He and my colleague from Michigan, who bring this bill to the floor of the Senate to manage, are models of what we ought to do in this Congress, in this Senate.

The Senate is almost evenly divided. So is the House. This President won by a whisker in 2000. So we have a divided Government, almost right down the middle. And those who suggest that what we ought to do, in terms of the way we run things around here, is to have the majority party decide what happens, and then say to the minority party, you do not count, you are excluded, get lost—which is what happened all of last year, by the way, in these conferences; we appoint conferees, and then we are told the Democrats are not welcome to participate in the conferences, despite the fact they were a conferee—the fact is, we need to do better than that. This country deserves the best of what all of us have to offer, the best of what both parties can offer, instead of the worst of what each will offer.

There is a lot to be gained, it seems to me, by bipartisanship, by working together, by deciding that good ideas are not the exclusive property of whatever party is in the majority at the moment. There is a lot to be gained by that. My hope is what happened yesterday is the first step of a long trail of

bipartisanship and the first step in developing consensus on issues, in which we all understand we are serving the same interests.

We want what is best for our country. But there are some—there are some—who have no interest in trying to find ways to work together. They want open, partisan warfare.

I brought to the floor last week a couple of charts that showed the origin of that, charts an organization put together that said: Oh, by the way, here is the way you do this. If you have an opponent, here is what you should say about your opponent because we have tested these words. This organization, called GOPAC, said: Use words like ''liar,'' ''sick,'' ''pathetic,'' ''traitor,'' ''treason,'' ''antichild,'' ''antifamily,'' ''antiflag,'' when you describe your opponent. Be sure and use those words because we have tested them, and they work. That was the kind of rancid partisan ignorance that represented the foundation of what has been built for too long.

My hope is that perhaps we can reject all of that. Understanding that when a country is at war, when a country has energy problems, when a country has fiscal policy problems, that it makes good sense to get the best of what Republicans have to offer and the best of what Democrats have to offer and form a consensus to govern and achieve the goals that all of us aspire to. That is what the American people expect. I don't think aggressive debate at all hinders or hurts this country. In fact, I think it strengthens us. But aggressive partisanship, having as a goal not just winning but making sure the other side is destined to lose, that does hurt this country.

My hope is that yesterday, as we created a conference for a highway bill which is very important—it is important in the context of jobs and progress for the economy—I hope that was the first step in moving towards this consensus. Senator DASCHLE, Senator REID, so many others want to play a constructive role in good public policy. That has always been our goal. I believe this country deserves better than we have seen in recent months, especially in the last several years. I hope what happened yesterday might put us on that road.

I will come back at another time and talk about the specific bill we are considering, the Defense authorization bill. It is very important. We tried this week, Senator LOTT and myself, to alter some of the base-closing provisions so that we could force a responsible result in what we are going to do with overseas bases first and then make a judgment about domestic bases. We came up two votes short on that. But while we were two votes short, there were four votes missing that we expect would have voted for us. So I think there is a majority in the Senate who actually support that position.

There are some provisions in this bill that we must have an aggressive and full debate on. They have to do with the authorization of the spending of money to begin producing a new category of nuclear weapons, low-yield, bunker-buster, earth-penetrator nuclear weapons. A series of discussions need to be held, aggressive discussions around that subject. Should we begin developing new nuclear weapons with the understanding that they are just like other weapons and perfectly usable tactically? I don't believe that is the case, but some in this Chamber do believe that we just ought to have nuclear weapons available so we can drop one of them on a cave someplace, and if Osama bin Laden is holed up in the cave, we can deal with him with a nuclear weapon.

Our goal as a nuclear power needs to be to try to make certain that never again is a nuclear weapon used in anger, and our job as a leader is to stop the spread of nuclear weapons to other countries that don't now have them and try to find a way to reduce the number of nuclear weapons that exist. Some 30,000 nuclear weapons now exist. The absence of one of them, the stealing of one nuclear weapon or the access to one nuclear weapon by a terrorist would make 9/11 seem small by comparison in terms of what a nuclear weapon could do in the hands of a terrorist.

This is a provision about which I speak more. It is an important provision, one I would like to see removed in support of an amendment to be offered by one of my colleagues.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant journal clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COLEMAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. COLEMAN. Are we in morning business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. We are not. We are on the bill.

Mr. COLEMAN. I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

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

MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. COLEMAN. Madam President, as we approach Memorial Day, it touches us all as an important moment. This is the first Memorial Day for hundreds of American families who have recently lost loved ones in the Middle East. For others, it is the first such day for families of veterans of World War II and other conflicts who have passed away during the last year.

My father-in-law Bob Casserly passed away a few weeks ago. He was one of four brothers. They all signed up, served in World War II, four boys. Bob was the youngest. They all made it home. He is the first of that family and that generation to pass away. How deeply significant and necessary it is for us to pause here and honor their precious gift of sacrifice for the lives we get to enjoy and they don't.

One of the poet's wrote that ''God gave us memory that we might have roses in December.'' We remember the brave and strong young lives that were lost to give strength and courage to our own lives.

As all of my colleagues do, I travel back and forth by air from this city to my home State. I see the same sight on both ends of my trip. Arlington National Cemetery spreads out across many acres on the Potomac River near the airport. In the Twin Cities, Fort Snelling Cemetery sits near the bank of the Minnesota River. You can see it as you fly into the Minneapolis-St. Paul airport.

They are both beautiful places, but they carry a staggering message. We have paid an enormous price for liberty around the world. Each cross or monument is a person and a family and a home town. And there are thousands upon thousands of them.

I have never been there, but I am told that there is a pilgrim graveyard near Plymouth Rock in Massachusetts, where the remains of the first colonists lie. Somewhere in that cemetery there is a small sign which reads, ''That which our forefathers at such a great price secured, let us not idly slip away.''

That is the message of this Memorial Day to me. Freedom is precious and constantly endangered. The world is such that, as Edmund Burke said, ''the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.''

What is mind-boggling is the constant supply of good men and women willing to step forward to do something.

Addicted as most of us are to security and convenience, it is astonishing that regular folks in great numbers step forward to enter into a hostile environment and risk their lives. For fame? No. For riches? No. For vengeance? No. They do it for their country and what America stands for.

As has been said many times, America will remain the ''land of the free'' only so long as it is the ''home of the brave.''

A hundred and forty one years ago this November, Abraham Lincoln dedicated the cemetery at Gettysburg, PA. A large number of soldiers from the Minnesota First Volunteer Infantry Division, who had played a decisive role in the battle, were buried there.

Lincoln spoke the heart of the whole country, and speaks our heart today, when he concluded:

> It is for us, the living, to be dedicated here to the unfinished business which they who fought here have thus so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion: that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government

of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth.

We in Minnesota especially grieve with the families who have lost young men in the conflict in Iraq. They join a long, brave column of patriots who laid down their lives. We can never repay the debt we owe them. But we dare not forget them, or fail to recognize their extraordinary service.

Chief Warrant Officer Patrick Dorff of Elk River, on the banks of the Mississippi. He died in Iraq on January 25, 2003. He was 32 years old. He died trying to rescue a fellow soldier from a patrol boat that had capsized in the Tigris River.

He left behind a wife, a daughter, his parents and siblings in Elk River.

From an early age, he always wanted to fly. He brought his passion to his military service. He called himself a ''sky cop'' over Iraq. Who knows how many lives he saved by providing air support.

He was a great man. Now he is a great hero.

SSG Brian Hellerman was from Freeport, MN, home of Charlie's Café. He was 35 when he died on August 6, 2003, in Baghdad. He lost his own dad as a teenager and joined the military to honor his memory. He left behind a wife and two kids, who have also lost their dad. He wrote in an e-mail, ''I am still in because I want to provide freedom for those I love and care about.'' He was a great man. Now he is a great hero.

PFC Edward Herrgott, age 20, was from Shakopee, MN on the Minnesota River. He died the day before Independence Day last year. He was killed by a sniper as he guarded the Iraqi National Museum from looters. He joined the military to prepare for a career in law enforcement. He was dedicated to a keeping others safe, even if it meant putting himself in danger. He was a great man. Now he is a great hero.

SSG Dale Panchot, 26, was from Northome, in Minnesota's north woods. He died on November 17, 2003 north of Baghdad in a grenade attack. He wanted to be a soldier as far back as his parents could remember. He idolized his World War II veteran grandfather, and joined the Minnesota National Guard in high school. At his funeral, the whole town came together to honor his faithful service. He was a great man. Now he is a great hero.

LCpl Levi Angell, age 20, was from Cloquet of Minnesota's Northland near Duluth. He was killed on April 8, 2004, in a rocket-propelled grenade attack. He joined the Marines after graduating from high school. He completed a tour in Kuwait and then volunteered to be redeployed to the region. He leaves behind his parents and eight brothers and sisters. He was a great man. Now he is a great hero.

Cpl Tyler Fey, aged 22, was from Eden Prairie in the Southwest area of the Twin Cities. He died on April 4, 2004, in Anbar Province, west of Baghdad. He was a combat engineer and a proud soldier who served 2 tours in Iraq. He was remembered as a kind and loveable person by his friends at Holy Angels High School in Richfield, MN. He was a great man. Now he is a great hero.

PFC Moises Langhorst, 19, of Moose Lake, died April 5 in Iraq. Moy, as he was called, aspired to a military career from a young age, wearing camo clothing and even driving a truck with a camouflage pattern. A few weeks before he died, he wrote to his church, ''Between my good training and my faith in God, I have noting to worry about.'' He joined the Marines right out of high school with his buddy Matthew Milczark of Kettle River, just down the road. He was a great man. Now he is a great American hero.

PFC Milczark, 18, died in Kuwait on March 8, six weeks before his friend. He was the Moose Lake Homecoming King 2 years ago this month. His grandfather and three uncles have also served in the U.S. military. He was a great man. Now he is a great American hero.

SP James Holmes, of East Grand Forks, died in Germany on May 8 from injuries he sustained in Iraq. He had suffered shrapnel wounds after an improvised explosive device detonated near his military vehicle while he was on patrol in Baghdad. Holmes was 28. He grew up in Arizona. He had been living in East Grand Forks, MN, and worked for Valley Petroleum across the border in Grand Forks, ND. His best friend, Howard McDonald recalled, ''He felt he had a bigger part to play and answered the call to duty without hesitation. He was doing exactly what he wanted to do, and he died with honor.'' He was a great man. Now he is a great American hero.

Those are 9 young men. Nine families. Nine home towns. How incredibly sad it is that the promise of their lives was snuffed out. But we take comfort in the knowledge that they were doing what they wanted to do, many of them from an early age.

''Greater love has no man than this,'' the Scriptures tell us, ''than to lay down his life for his friends.'' Though we never knew them, they laid down their lives for us. They laid down their lives for a free Iraq and generations who will live free because of their sacrifice.

As we remember them and pray for them, together we hope for a new birth of freedom and a time of peace in the Middle East. Thank God for the memory of these and all our veterans. Thank God we live in a Nation of great American heroes such as these.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia is recognized.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, it is my understanding that we are in morning business at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is considering the bill, S. 2400.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate go into a period of morning business for a short time to consider two resolutions, and that we then return to the bill.

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

DEDICATION OF THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL ON MAY 29, 2004—S. RES. 362

RECOGNIZING THE VETERANS WHO SERVED DURING WORLD WAR II—H. CON. RES. 409

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, on behalf of the Senate leadership—both the majority and minority—I am privileged to ask the Senate to act on resolutions relating to the World War II Memorial. It is coincidental that the Presiding Officer at this time is the distinguished Senator from North Carolina, whose husband has had an instrumental role in the preparation and planning of the memorial, which will be dedicated a week from tomorrow, on May 29.

At this time, I ask that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 362 and H. Con. Res. 409, en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the resolutions by title.

The assistant journal clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 362) expressing the sense of the Senate on the dedication of the National World War II Memorial on May 29, 2004, in recognition of the duty, sacrifices, and valor of the members of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in World War II.

A resolution (H. Con. Res. 409) recognizing with humble gratitude the more than 16,000,000 veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II and the Americans who supported the war effort on the home front and celebrating the completion of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall in the District of Columbia.

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

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, en bloc, and that any statements relating to the resolutions be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolutions (S. Res. 362 and H. Con. Res. 409) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 362), with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 362

Whereas the National World War II Memorial is being dedicated on Saturday, May 29, 2004, on the National Mall in Washington, District of Columbia;

Whereas the National World War II Memorial, a monument of granite and bronze, has

a fitting location on the National Mall situated between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial and flanked by memorials dedicated to the members of the Armed Forces of the United States who served and died in the Korean War and in the Vietnam era;

Whereas the National World War II Memorial is dedicated to the more than 16,000,000 individuals from the 48 States, the District of Columbia, and the territories and possession of the United States who served in the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine in World War II;

Whereas on May 29, 2004, hundreds of thousands of veterans, and their families and friends, from across the United States will gather on the National Mall to join in the dedication of the National World War II Memorial and to pay homage to the memory of the more than 400,000 members of the Armed Forces of the United States who died while serving during World War II and the more than 10,000,000 veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States in World War II who have died since the end of World War II;

Whereas on May 29, 2004, the Nation will pay tribute to all the members of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in World War II;

Whereas on May 29, 2004, the Nation will remember the duty, sacrifices, and valor of the members of the Armed Forces of the United States who served on land and sea and in the air in the more than 89 campaigns conducted in the European and Pacific theaters of operations in World War II;

Whereas on May 29, 2004, the Nation will acknowledge that the men and women who served in the Armed Forces of the United States in World War II came from all the States, the District of Columbia, and all the territories and possessions of the United States and represented men and women of all races, religions, ethnic groups, professions, educational attainments, and backgrounds, all united in the goal of serving their Country and preserving freedom; and

Whereas construction of the National World War II Memorial would not have been possible without the donations of hundreds of thousands of individual Americans, as well as corporations, foundations, veterans groups, professional and fraternal organizations, communities, and schools, who all acknowledged that a memorial should be constructed in the National Capital to recognize and pay tribute to the duty, sacrifices, and valor of all the members of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in World War II: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate—

(1) to express the grateful thanks of the Nation to the more than 16,000,000 individuals who served in the Army, Army Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine in World War II and to the millions of Americans on the home front who contributed to the war effort during World War II; and

(2) to recognize the dedication of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, District of Columbia, on May 29, 2004, as an occasion to acknowledge and pay tribute to the duty, sacrifices, and valor of all the members of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in World War II, a group known collectively as the ''Greatest Generation''.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I will address briefly these resolutions. I ask unanimous consent that I be made a cosponsor of H. Con. Res. 409.

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

Mr. WARNER. This particular resolution and preamble, in part, states as follows:

Recognizing with humble gratitude the more than 16,000,000 veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II and the Americans who supported the war effort on the home front and celebrating the completion of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall in the District of Columbia.

Whereas, the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall in the District of Columbia will be the first national memorial to both recognize the courage, bravery, and unselfish dedication of the members of the United States Armed Forces who served in World War II and those who served on the home front and acknowledge the commitment and achievement of the entire American people in that conflict;

Whereas, World War II veteran Roger Durbin of Kerkey, Ohio, first proposed the construction of the National World War II Memorial, and Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur of Ohio introduced the legislation to establish the memorial in the District of Columbia to honor members of the Armed Forces who served in World War II and to commemorate the participation of the United States in that war;

Whereas, in Public Law 103–32, approved May 25, 1993, Congress authorized the American Battle Monuments Commission, an independent Federal agency, to design and construct the memorial.

The resolution goes on in great detail and lays out the legislative history of how this magnificent memorial came into being. Of course, it will be in the RECORD. The last resolving clause is:

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress recognizes with humble gratitude the more than 16,000,000 veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II and the Americans who supported the war effort on the home front and celebrates the completion of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall in the District of Columbia. And then action now by the Senate.

I make these remarks on behalf of those Members of the Senate who served in World War II—Senator INOUYE, Senator HOLLINGS, Senator STEVENS, Senator LAUTENBERG, Senator AKAKA, and myself, all of whom with humble pride have participated in this legislation through these many years and joined with our former distinguished colleague, Senator DOLE, who showed absolute extraordinary leadership in this entire sequence of legislative steps, and particularly raising the needed funds. I will address that momentarily.

Resolution 362 expresses the sense of the Senate on the dedication of the National World War II Memorial, May 29, 2004, in recognition of the duty, sacrifices, and valor of members of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in World War II. The resolution goes on to lay out, again, other aspects of the legislative history and the role of the Congress and others in this magnificent memorial.

AUTHORIZING USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, lastly, the other matter that is before the Senate is H. Con. Res. 423, a resolution authorizing the Capitol Grounds to be used for a public event providing additional space in conjunction with the dedication of the National World War II Memorial on May 29, 2004, and such other dates that the Speaker of the House and representatives of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may designate.

It is a very wise step to try to help in some way the extraordinary turnout in response of veterans who will be coming to the Nation's Capitol to be present at the memorial dedication, but for reasons of shortage of seats and other reasons, we are trying to accommodate them. I commend the Senate and the House for working on the means by which to make the Capitol Grounds available.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 423, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 423) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for activities associated with the dedication of the National World War II Memorial.

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

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the concurrent resolution be printed in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 423) was agreed to.

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I also ask unanimous consent to print in today's RECORD some historic information about the memorial and a partial schedule of the many events that are occurring in connection with the dedication. I hope this record, which will be printed today in the proceedings of the Senate, will serve as a useful tool to Senators as they are working with their constituents on this matter.

I would like to conclude, again reflecting on Senator Dole's role. Again, he is national chairman of the World War II Memorial campaign. I recall when he undertook this assignment, working together with Fred Smith, the cochairman of the national campaign, Senator Dole said their goal would be approximately $100 million and that they wanted to raise it from the people of the United States, individuals.

Over 600,000 individuals came forward. Also, 400 veterans groups, and over 1,400 schools took up contributions. All 50 States and Puerto Rico contributed $1 for every citizen of that State who participated during World War II. The breadth of this campaign, envisioned by Senator Dole and others and the Battle Monuments Commission, and, of course, his cochairman,

Mr. Smith, was extraordinary, and the outpouring from all across America was equally extraordinary. They set a goal of around $100 million, but it is my understanding they are approaching $200 million, showing the depth and feeling and gratitude of all citizens of our Nation.

With the greatest humility I compliment Senator Dole, Mr. Smith, and others who undertook this task and achieved beyond all possible dreams. The dedication is just shaping up to be one of the great moments in the contemporary history of the United States of America.

Stop to think: It took 11 years to get the legislation through. Hostilities ceased with the surrender of Japan. It is my recollection—I was but a young sailor then in training in the United States—it was in the summer of 1945, August, is my recollection, and the surrender of Germany, I think, occurred previously in that year, if my recollection is correct, May 8 or 9.

That extraordinary chapter and struggle of mankind to preserve freedom came to a quiet and reverent conclusion with extraordinary losses. Over 400,000 Americans alone gave their lives and probably in the millions who were wounded, including our distinguished colleagues, Senator Dole and Senator Inouye.

I am at a loss for words to express the gratitude of this country. We are here today exercising the right of free speech because of those sacrifices and elsewhere in the world, exercising various levels of democracy and freedom of speech solely because of the enormity of the sacrifices of that generation referred to now as ''the greatest generation.''

Madam President, I, at this time, again acknowledge the participation of our former colleague, Senator Dole, and the participation of all Members of the Chamber today and those who served in the 11 years preceding who participated in the legislative steps to bring about and fulfill the role of the Congress as it relates to this magnificent chapter in American history.

Madam President, I see another colleague, a very valuable member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, seeking recognition. Having spoken briefly before, my understanding is that the Senator will be speaking on the bill; is that correct?

Mr. DAYTON. That is right, matters related to the bill.

Mr. WARNER. The Senator may speak for whatever time he wishes.

Mr. DAYTON. Fifteen minutes, if I may.

Mr. WARNER. Whatever the distinguished Senator desires.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005—Continued

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I ask at this time that we return to the pending bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill is the pending question.

Mr. WARNER. And that the distinguished Senator be recognized.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Mr. DAYTON. I thank the distinguished chairman of the committee, Senator WARNER, and I certainly want to join in his remarks commending the husband of the Presiding Officer, the distinguished Senator Dole—both distinguished Senators DOLE—and also to recognize Chairman WARNER, who has been superb in his quest for the truth of what has happened in Iraq that has come to light in recent days.

I know it has been very difficult and there has been a high amount of pressure on him, but he and our ranking member, Senator LEVIN, have led us well on that committee, as they have throughout my 3½ years of service.

We are very fortunate that he has continued his distinguished leadership to our Senate and to our Nation throughout these years and continues to do so now.

This week we are debating the Defense Authorization Act for 2005 and will return to it after the Memorial Day recess. I thank the majority leader, Senator FRIST, for not trying to rush us through this important legislation, because it is complex, and it is also very costly.

This bill authorizes $422 billion of taxpayer money and borrowed funds for our national defense purposes in fiscal year 2005. That does not count the $25 billion supplemental that the President has requested, and it does not count the additional supplemental that we know soon after the November election will also be requested for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq during the rest of that fiscal year, probably another $35 billion to $50 billion. That means a total of almost $500 billion authorized for military operations in the year 2005.

When I arrived 4 years ago, in fiscal year 2001, that comparable figure was $309 billion. That is an increase of over 60 percent in just 4 years.

Obviously, a lot has happened since then. There was 9/11, the war in Afghanistan, the war in Iraq, the war against terrorism, homeland security, costs most of which are not included in this bill. I have supported every defense, homeland security authorization, and appropriations bill during my 3½ years in the Senate, and I sit on both authorizing committees. I will support this bill, as I did in committee. I will support the $25 billion supplemental appropriation, as I have all of the previous supplemental requests.

I want to ask for some answers from our Commander in Chief, President Bush: In return for this $500 billion of taxpayers' money, what is your plan in Iraq? What must be accomplished, and by whom, before we declare victory? How long will that take?

I spent 5 hours in the Senate Armed Services Committee hearings this week, 1 hour yesterday with approximately 40 of my colleagues, with the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the generals in charge of the war efforts in Afghanistan and Iraq. I did not get answers to those basic questions. I heard generalities but not answers.

General Abizaid, the excellent general in charge of that region of the war, said it is vital that we ''stay the course.'' OK. But what course are we on? Where does it lead us? Where are you leading us, Mr. President?

I voted against the Iraq resolution in October of 2002 for three reasons. I thought it was unconstitutional for Congress to give up its constitutional responsibility to declare war and give the President that authority 6 months before he himself made his decision. Second, I was not persuaded that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction that threatened our national security. Third, I believed the invasion and occupation of an Arab nation would weaken, not strengthen, our national security. I believe I was right on all three.

Now that we are there, I want us to succeed. We must succeed. The stakes are too high for failure or defeat. But what constitutes success? We have already successfully achieved our stated objectives. Our Armed Forces smashed Saddam Hussein's army and toppled his regime in 3 weeks. We won that military victory overwhelmingly. We determined that Iraq had no weapons of mass destruction to use against us or anyone else. None were used, thank God. None were found on the battlefields or in caches or in sheds or caves or anywhere else. None were even in production.

For the last year, our Armed Forces have heroically protected the country, helped to rebuild it, and trained and equipped some 200,000 Iraqis as police and militia. On June 30, some measure of authority will be transferred to an Iraqi government, selected by a representative of the United Nations, along with a blueprint for developing a national constitution and holding democratic elections. Success, success, success—a grand slam.

What else must we do? Madam President, 794 heroic Americans have given their lives to achieve that success, and I join with my colleague, Senator COLEMAN, who cited each of those Minnesotans by name. They are truly, like their fallen comrades, American heroes. Thousands more American heroes have been wounded. There are 134,000 American heroes risking their lives every day and every night over in Iraq for some indefinite period of time. And for what? For what, Mr. President?

We can do no more for the people of Iraq than give them back their country. What they decide to do with it is up to them. That is democracy. It is their country. They should administer it, patrol it, police it, and defend it—not us. If we are doing any of that, we are still running their country. We still get blamed for whatever is going

wrong. Our men and women still do the fighting, the bleeding, and the dying. Yet growing numbers of Iraqi citizens and people in other Arab countries hate us, want to drive us out of Iraq, want to retaliate against our troops or against our citizens. The longer we occupy Iraq, the more that hatred will increase.

There is no such thing as a perfect war. War causes deaths and destruction on intended targets and unintended victims. The devastation, the killing and maiming is horrific on everybody—our soldiers, their soldiers, their civilians, innocent men, women, and children who live there. Remember, it is their home. The stakes are inevitable and their ill effects are cumulative.

Last week, it was Abu Ghraib. This week it is a wedding attack. Next week it will be something else. There is no subtraction. There is no better. There is either war or there is peace.

Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God.

Again, I call upon President Bush to explain to us, the American people and to the world, for what purpose do we now remain in Iraq? What more must we accomplish, and how long will it take? How will the Iraqis learn to run their country except by running their country? How will they learn to police it except by policing it, to defend it except by defending it? It will not be easy for them. It will not be smooth. They have not had those responsibilities for over a quarter century, but it is time they started now, step by step, stage by stage. They should do more, and we should do less.

If we must extinguish every pocket of resistance, we will be there a long time, particularly when it is resistance to our being there.

The responsibility for 5,000 insurgents should be the Iraqis'—not ours. Their police should patrol their streets, protect their property, keep their peace—not our soldiers.

In Falluja, where Marine General Tim Conway turned those responsibilities over to Iraqi command, an uprising of 2 weeks ago is reportedly quieting down. Insurgents battling against us switched sides and joined the local police force. Most of the people fighting against us there stopped fighting against their fellow Iraqis and the rest were told to leave town by other Iraqis. Surely 200,000 Iraqi police and militia can contain 5,000 insurgents without us, without our bleeding and dying.

Our decision is, do we get out of Iraq in months or do we want to stay in Iraq for years? Right now the Bush administration's intention appears to be geared for years, with the assumption that our staying longer will produce a better result, a result more to our liking, for whatever those unstated reasons are.

But what if our staying longer will make things worse, for the Iraqis and for us? More violence, more casualties, more unrest, and more instability? That is not success. The worse conditions become there, the harder it becomes for us to leave because we cannot be considered weak or lacking will. In fact, the world doesn't think we are weak. They don't question our will. They are wondering if we are wise.

Getting out of Iraq in months instead of years is wise. We do it on our stated terms, not on anyone else's. We phase ourselves out, we phase Iraqis in—quickly. First they are made to have responsibility for their cities, for patrolling, policing, establishing law and keeping order; then their highways and other infrastructure; then oilfields and refineries; then their border security. During that transition, up to one-half of our forces could depart, be stationed in a neighboring country at the ready, and the other half could transition, as this transfer occurs, to secure base camps in Iraq where we will make it clear we will not tolerate anarchy or civil war or foreign intervention. The rest of it we allow the Iraqis to work out for themselves, among themselves, by themselves. We enlist other Arab nations and the United Nations to assist with those resolutions while we ensure against catastrophe, and we make clear our intention to leave as soon as Iraq's sovereignty is secure, as soon as Iraq's new government has established law and order. That is their democracy. That is our success.

Paradoxically, in life the more you try to control events to get what you want, the more you become controlled by those events and you don't get what you want. The administration picked their favorite Iraqi-in-exile and paid him reportedly millions of dollars to do their bidding. This week, American troops raided his headquarters and arrested his cronies. We don't know who the right Iraqis are to lead their country. Iraqis may not know yet themselves. But they will have better ideas than we will.

Our challenge, and our opportunity, will be to befriend their chosen leaders rather than to make our chosen friends into their leaders, only to discover they are not friends at all.

Instead, we should focus our efforts on aiding Iraq's new leaders to succeed, to rebuild and improve their country. That will make their leaders our friends. That will make their citizens our friends. That will help make more people in the Arab world our friends. And that would strengthen our national security much more than would more war.

To date, only $3.7 billion of the $15 billion Congress provided to help rebuild Iraq has been expended. Obviously, the lack of security has limited those expenditures. But so has the lack of commitment by the Bush administration because they have eschewed nation building. They have spent even less than that for rebuilding Afghanistan, a country which has a credible leader, President Karzai, with whom I met in Kabul, Afghanistan in January of 2002. He was desperate for our help in rebuilding his destitute country. What an opportunity to show the people of Afghanistan and the people of the Arab world what American knowledge, technology, capitalism, and compassion can do to make their lives better. It is an opportunity so far squandered by the Bush administration which, as I said, scorns nation building.

Nation building is better than nation bombing—better for them, better for us, and better for the world. A better world is our best national security. People whose lives we are helping to improve, who we are teaching and aiding to improve their own lives, become our friends, not our enemies. They will not harbor our enemies or help them. They will stand with us and the rest of the civilized world in rejecting terrorism and expelling terrorists from their own countries and their havens in the world.

Paradoxically, every day we are fighting the war in Iraq we are weakening our defenses against terrorism. Every day we make peace in Iraq, help rebuild Iraq, help rebuild Afghanistan, we are strengthening our defenses against terrorism.

The war against terrorism will be won by building a peaceful world, by building a prosperous world, for the multitudes, not just the millionaires. Raising standards of living, social justice and the rule of law—all that will foster democracy; not military occupation or provisional authorities, not prisoner abuses or more armored tanks.

So, tell us your plan, Mr. President, as we approach Memorial Day. Tell us how you will bring our 134,000 troops in Iraq safely home, and when. And tell us what course we are on; military escalation or peaceful cooperation? Nation bombing or nation building? Financial bankruptcy or global prosperity?

You are asking your fellow citizens for 4 more years, Mr. President. Tell us first what course we are on.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I have an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 to expand the Mentor-Protégé program to include service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses and qualified HUBZone small business concerns as eligible participants. Four years ago I worked closely with Chairman WARNER to extend the benefits of this successful program to women-owned small businesses.

As chair of the Small Business Committee, it is my responsibility to create an environment where small businesses can flourish and apply their talents to the many pressing needs facing our government. The primary issue for small business is access to the Federal marketplace and the opportunity to compete. When small businesses are denied the opportunity to participate in the Federal procurement process, the result for our government is a dramatically reduced contractor base, and the mounting lost opportunity cost of choosing among fewer innovative firms

to deliver products and services at lower prices.

For the past several years, the Department of Defense has had a program in place to try to develop and maintain small disadvantaged- and women-owned vendors as a vital part of our Nation's defense industrial base. This program has also been a principal source of opportunity for these firms by offsetting some of the other Federal procurement practices, specifically contract bundling, that have squeezed small business out of contracting.

Small businesses play a critical role in our Nation's economic and homeland security. Small businesses are currently the leading job creators in our Nation's economy and are responsible for more than 75 percent of net new jobs in America.

However, millions of Americans today continue to struggle to find jobs. Hardest hit are the Nation's inner cities and depressed rural areas that face poverty year after year.

By locating in a historically underutilized business zone—HUBZone, more than 10,000 small businesses have responded to the call to make a difference in these underserved communities and to strengthen our economic security. Congress needs to do its part by making the DoD a frequent customer of these small businesses, so we can help them compete effectively in the marketplace and create more jobs.

The Federal government, including the DoD, can and should also do more to meet its commitment to small businesses owned by veterans, including service-disabled veterans. As committee chair, I am dedicated to ensuring that these individuals who have sacrificed so much to defend free competitive enterprise are provided with increased opportunities to perform Federal contracts, especially contracts for weapons, equipment, and services for our warfighters.

In the fiscal year 1991 National Defense Authorization Act, the Congress adopted a provision to help small disadvantaged firms develop the technical infrastructure necessary to perform Federal contracts effectively. This pilot program, the Mentor-Protégé program, provided for prime contractors to either be reimbursed for their added costs in providing technical assistance to certain small firms, or to receive credit for accomplishing their subcontracting plans in lieu of reimbursement. Four years ago, I sponsored legislation that now enables women-owned firms to participate in the program.

Experience under the Mentor-Protégé pilot program has been positive. Mentor firms have demonstrated that they can help train small disadvantaged- and women-owned protégé firms to develop the infrastructure, necessary to be successful in large Federal contracts. As these successful protégés graduate, mentors can open their doors to the next generation of firms eager to contract with DoD as suppliers and subcontractors.

The program clearly has contributed to the success of bringing small disadvantaged- and women-owned businesses into DoD contract work. Over the last four years the DoD has increased the volume of dollars awarded to small disadvantaged businesses by more than 180 percent and the dollars awarded to women-owned firms by nearly 100 percent.

I ask that we expand participation to businesses owned by service-disabled veterans and businesses that locate in severely economically distressed areas. In so doing, we enhance the business competitiveness of these classes of firms and strengthen our defense industrial base by generating waves of small businesses prepared to supply goods and services in defense of our Nation.

I urge my colleagues to accept this amendment.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I also have an amendment to Section 833 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 providing for improvements and accountability measures in the test program which permits large prime contractors to develop company- or unit-wide subcontracting plans.

This amendment is designed to ensure that the test program undergoes appropriate evaluation and monitoring in order to enable accurate assessment of the effects of the test approach on subcontracting opportunities for small business.

Currently, the Federal Acquisition Regulation and customary procurement practices require prime contractors to prepare subcontracting plans with a particular contract or potential contract in mind. The test program, which operates as an exception to this rule, was authorized in the National Defense Authorization Act for FYs 1990 and 1991. The purpose of the test program was to explore whether comprehensive subcontract planning could prove to be an adequate alternative for achieving meaningful small business subcontracting at lesser cost.

In April 2004, the General Accounting Office issued a report entitled ''Contract Management: DoD Needs Measures for Small Business Contracting and Better Data on Foreign Subcontracts,'' GAO–04–381, where it found the test program's results inconclusive and criticized the Defense Department for failing to adopt measurement metrics to meaningfully evaluate the test program. Despite this report, the Armed Services Committee approved a five-year extension of the test program in Section 833 of the Act.

As chair of the Small Business Committee, I am deeply concerned that the program fails to live up to its purpose as a test, and I question the prudence of extending this test program without proper standards and procedures to measure its success. My amendment provides a certain deadline for the DoD to institute the needed measurement metrics and freezes the expansion of the program until these metrics are in place. The amendment also provides for oversight by the GAO.

PROCUREMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Ms. SNOWE. Lastly, Mr. President, I have an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 to strike Section 811(b) of the act, which alters disclosure requirements for subcontracting information provided to small businesses through the Procurement Technical Assistance Program of the Defense Logistics Agency.

This amendment will ensure that small businesses seeking federal subcontracting opportunities through PTAP would continue to have adequate point-of-contact information for procurements up to $1 million.

The Procurement Technical Assistance Program assists small businesses by providing training and information about federal business opportunities, both prime and subcontracts. Under the terms of this program, the DLA joins forces with State, local, and tribal governments for the purpose of delivering technical assistance services to businesses that are new to federal procurement.

Current law requires that experienced defense contractors with over $500,000 in contract awards disclose to assistance providers the contact information for their executives with authority to enter into subcontracts. These disclosures must be made only once a year. The cost of disclosures is practically non-existent. However, the disclosure requirement materially advances the purpose of the program by allowing small businesses easy access to potential subcontracts.

Nevertheless, Section 811(b) of the act seeks to exempt experienced defense contractors from these annual disclosures unless they receive over $1 million in government contracts. The need for this change is, at best, questionable. Providing a few names and phone numbers once a year is hardly a significant burden. As chair of the Small Business Committee, I am concerned that this change would needlessly obscure the procurement process for small business. I urge the Senate to retain the current PTAP disclosure requirements.

● Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I wish to clarify the intent of legislation I introduced yesterday, S. 2457. Certainly, I would like to ensure that the record reflects my intention in introducing this bill.

The provisions contained in S. 2457 mirror those contained in Section 3116 of the fiscal year 2005 Department of Defense authorization bill, which pertain to the reclassification of high-level radioactive waste. Let me be clear: I oppose these provisions. I hope the majority of my colleagues will oppose these provisions as well. I introduced this legislation for the purpose of demonstrating to my colleagues that

issues within the scope of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 do not belong within the jurisdiction of the Senate Armed Services Committee. This was an issue of some debate on the floor yesterday, and I am pleased that the parliamentarian has in fact referred this legislation to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, of which I am a member. I hope the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee will take note of this fact when debate resumes on Sec. 3116 of his bill after the Memorial Day Recess. A policy shift this significant requires substantial public debate within the committee of primary jurisdiction.

I would also like to respond to a few of the comments made by the distinguished Senator from Colorado, Mr. ALLARD, earlier today. First, he noted that the Armed Services Committee discussed the issue of waste incidental to reprocessing at two hearings earlier this year. Again, the Armed Services Committee is not the committee of jurisdiction for issues related to nuclear waste cleanup policy, as has now been affirmed by the Senate's parliamentarian. Second, a hearing at which the concept of ''incidental'' waste is discussed is not at all the same as a legislative hearing on a specific proposal. To my knowledge, the language to which I object in Sec. 3116 of the DoD authorization bill has never previously been introduced as stand-alone legislation. And if it had, it would not have been referred to the Armed Services Committee. Thus, we have had no legislative hearings on the Senator from South Carolina's proposal.

Lastly, the Senator from Colorado has misstated my position with regard to removal of Hanford's underground tanks, which contain 53 million gallons of high-level radioactive waste. As I stated clearly on the floor last evening, the cleanup plan at Hanford, as outlined in the TriParty agreement, does not include removal of these tanks from the ground. As I stated previously, I agree with the State of Washington's current thinking on this matter. Digging up these tanks would pose a number of unnecessary risks, and that is not a concept now on the table. I hope that the Senator from Colorado will take note of this fact.

I look forward resuming debate on these matters of such tremendous importance when the Senate returns from the Memorial Day Recess.●

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SMITH). The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I have enjoyed listening to my colleague here today. I have been concerned with some of the things my good friend has said.

First of all, you know, I don't think anybody doubts that what we have done over there has put a tremendous dent in terrorism all over the world. Because of the fortitude of this President and this administration, we have stood up against terrorists all over the world—in Afghanistan and in Iraq, but if the truth be known, in so many other countries that are fraught with terrorism. I can't talk much about that. But I can say one thing as a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, this administration is on top of this all over the world.

Probably the two greatest experiments right now against terrorism are in Afghanistan—where we are slowly moving that country forward, and showing a commitment of the international community in a very real sense. But we are having a very difficult time locating al-Qaida, which slips across the border into the ungovernable part of Pakistan.

But probably the most important steps taken against terrorism in our world today are being exhibited right in Iraq.

In the 20th century, Iraq has been a very difficult area, with all kinds of animosity, tribal difficulties, tribal conflicts. Many of the current conflicts existed long before we had to get involved, and it is easy to understand why this is taking a bit of time to get done.

The one thing I am very concerned about—that is happening day in and day out with colleagues on the other side of the floor—is the undermining of morale, the undermining of efforts of our troops over there. What happened to the unity that we need in America to support our troops?

War is never easy, and it is never something that is pleasant. Anybody who thinks you can just walk out of Iraq and turn it over to the Iraqis at this point is not only whistling ''Dixie,'' but you have to wonder if the confidence is really there.

By the way, having said that, I feel badly that the minority leader in the House of Representatives has chosen to use such unwise language about the President of the United States. She should be ashamed of herself. I know she is trying to do her job over there. I think having two parties is very important, and having a loyal opposition is important as well. But to call the President incompetent, and to call what he is doing incompetency undermines every soldier in Iraq and every soldier around the world. It undermines our fight against terrorism. It undermines so many things that are important for our country, for our troops overseas, and for those who are here. It undermines our young people who might believe that bunk. If you hear it enough, and the media presents it enough, people start to think that type of irresponsible talk is true. It is not only not true, it is irresponsible, mean, vindictive, and, I think, beneath the dignity of any leader in either of these bodies.

It is one thing to criticize the policies. That is what we are here to do. It is one thing to criticize a different philosophy and to try to have yours preeminent, but it is another thing to undermine the President of the United States at a time when we are in grave difficulties in Iraq and when we are in a grand experiment of trying to institute a democracy in lands that have never seen democracy.

I think it undermines our whole process for anybody to come on this floor and say we should leave now and let Iraq go to the Iraqis. What do you think we are doing? On June 30 we are going to turn it over to their Governing Council.

By the way, Mr. Bremer will be gone. He has this incredibly difficult job of trying to bring peace and stability to Iraq. He has done a terrific job. But he is going to be gone, and we are presently in the process of installing John Negroponte—one of our top foreign service officers, one of the top Ambassadors that this country has ever had, who is a wonderful family man who has been all over the world, who has served this country with distinction all over the world—to be our Ambassador in Iraq. This is evidence that Iraq is going to be turned over to the Iraqis. But the Iraqis should be the first to say we still need the stability that only the United States of America and its allies—some 30 countries—can bring about.

I am getting a little tired of people saying this is just the United States against the world. There are some 30-plus countries over there supporting us.

I would like to ask, Where are the French, where are the Germans, where are the Russians, and where are the Chinese? Aren't they concerned about stability in the Middle East? Of course not. They do not share the vision of sacrifice to improve other parts of the world.

I also would like to make a few points on what we have done over there and what we are in the process of doing, hopefully without being undermined by Members of this body or Members of the other body. This is not a grand experiment, but it is a grand approach to try to put a dent in terrorism and create at least a representative form of government in the Middle East, for the first time in history in that area in Iraq.

The U.S., in coalition with allies, has overthrown two terrorist regimes. We have rescued two nations. We have liberated 50 million people.

Some of these people who have been such big critics ought to acknowledge that.

This coalition has captured or killed almost two-thirds of these terrorist leaders around the world—two-thirds of the known senior advisers and al-Qaida operatives.

We have captured or killed 46 of the 55 most wanted in Iraq. We have disrupted terror cells on most continents. Mr. President, $200 million in terrorist assets have been seized or frozen.

Where are the compliments coming from the other side about some of these things?

The coalition persuaded Libya to eliminate its chemical- and nuclear-related programs and to accept international inspection.

That could never have happened without the President of the United States, George W. Bush; without his guts and without his ability and his foresightedness.

We have put up with Libya all these years, with their irresponsibilities in the Middle East and all over the world, and their sponsorship of terrorism.

Had it not been for what President Bush has done, Libya would never have agreed to start acting responsibly. Qadhafi would never agree, but he has finally seen the handwriting on the wall that we have some fortitude.

Al-Qaida is taking credit for getting rid of that government in Spain. They are going to try to do that to us. We had better be prepared for it.

This President has had the guts to stand up to the terrorist threat. He is certainly the leading person in the world who has had the guts to stand up against international terrorists for the first time in a long time.

I want to give all of the counterparts from the other nations credit, too, especially Tony Blair in Great Britain.

If we eliminate tyranny in the Middle East by doing what is right in Iraq, it is amazing what we can do throughout the rest of the world. It would be a crucial setback for international terror.

Just some of the things that have been accomplished over there in Iraq: The Transitional Administrative Law approved by the Iraqi Governing Council is now considered the most liberal basic governance laws in all of the Arab world. It assures freedom of religion, freedom of expression, freedom of press, and freedom of assembly. It also guarantees the fundamental rights of women for the first time.

That wouldn't have happened but for the courage of this coalition built up by our President.

Iraq's new currency is the most heavily traded currency in the Middle East now. A lot of people do not know that. Oil production and power generation are way beyond prewar levels now.

It is the United States that has done that and the coalition partners that have done that. It is a tremendous advancement.

All 22 universities and 43 technical institutes and colleges are now open in Iraq.

Can you imagine in that, in this short period of time, we have accomplished this?

The coalition forces have rehabilitated more than 2,200 schools, all 240 hospitals and more than 1,200 health clinics are now open.

Health care spending in Iraq has increased 30 times over prewar levels. There have been so many great changes over there that the Iraqi people are now starting to feel they have a chance.

If we leave now, the old regime's gangsters can come right back in, the instability can come back in. We have not finished the job of helping the police be able to run the place.

There are now 170 newspapers being published in Iraq.

As of May 4, the estimated crude oil export revenue was over $5.6 billion for this year alone. I could go on and on.

I am saying this: Why aren't we supportive of all the good things that have been done and are going on in Iraq? Why are we openly condemning this President, who had the guts to do what is right, and doing it so the whole world can see, so our young men and women are undermined and demoralized over there? Is it political advantage that some people are seeking? Some would say yes. Some might say no. Is it because it is an election year? I think many people would say yes. Is it because some people just hate George W. Bush? The answer to that is yes, too. Is it because of irresponsibility on the part of some in the Congress? Some might even say yes to that, although I personally would not take that position. But some who are saying yes may be right. It is certainly undermining our troops over there, certainly making it difficult for any President to have the guts to do what has to be done against terrorism.

I have worked on terrorist problems from the beginning around here, all 28 of my years. I was the prime sponsor of the Antiterrorism Effective Death Penalty Act in 1996—by the way, we were trying to put some of the provisions that are now in the PATRIOT Act in that bill. That was stopped by these naysayers and the people who are always talking about civil liberties. What about the civil liberties of the 3,000 people who died on September 11 because we were not prepared because we did not give law enforcement the tools to be able to stop that kind of terrible activity?

I get a little tired, to be honest with you. It is time to stand with this President, as Democrats and as Republicans, and back our soldiers over there. Yes, what happened at Abu Ghraib is not right. We know that. As far as I can see—and I went to Guantanamo Bay last week; I have been in all of the intelligence meetings as a member of the Select Committee on Intelligence—as far as I can see, it is limited to a limited number of people in Iraq who just plain got out of line and acted like goons. None of us can justify any of that. Now that we have made that clear, why do we dwell on it every day, every night, all day long, all evening long, on the news and everywhere else? We know it is wrong and we know darned well we will have to clean it up. And we will because this is a free Nation, and we believe in the rule of law.

I have said maybe more than I should have said, but I was disappointed in the remarks of the minority leader in the House yesterday. Talk about remarks that undermine everything this President is trying to do—and coming from one of our leaders. I hope she thinks it through and does not make any more of these irresponsible comments in the future. I hope we on this side think it through, too, and are more responsible in some of the things we do. It would be wonderful if we could work together more than we are in this body. I have never seen it so partisan in the whole time I have been in the Senate.

F/A–22 RAPTOR

I will change the subject to something that is very important to me.

I stand before you today as an ardent supporter of the F/A–22 Raptor. I urge that the Senate restore the President's budget by authorizing appropriations for 24 F/A–22 Raptors.

Two weeks ago, I had the opportunity to travel to Tyndall Air Force Base to be briefed on the capabilities of this extraordinary aircraft. As a result of these meetings and discussions with the pilots who are training to fly the aircraft and the ground personnel who are learning to maintain the Raptor, I have come to the conclusion that the Raptor is absolutely vital to our national security.

Over the past 30 years, the U.S. has been able to maintain air superiority in every conflict largely due to the F–15C. However, with the great advancements in technology over the past several years, the F–15 has struggled to keep pace. For example, the F–15 is not a stealth aircraft and its computer systems are based on obsolete technology. My colleagues should remember that the F–15 first flew in the early 1970s. It has been a magnificent plane but it is starting to age. During the ensuing years, nations have been consistently developing new aircraft and missile systems to defeat this fighter.

Realizing that the F–15 would need a replacement, the Air Force developed the F/A–22 Raptor. The result is a truly remarkable aircraft.

The F/A–22 has greater stealth capabilities than the F–117 Nighthawk. This is a powerful attribute when one remembers that it was the Nighthawk's stealth characteristics that enabled that aircraft to penetrate the integrated air defenses of Baghdad during the first night of the 1991 Gulf War.

The Raptor is also equipped with super-cruise engines. These engines do not need to go to after-burner in order to achieve supersonic flight. This provides the F/A–22 with a strategic advantage by enabling supersonic speeds to be maintained for a far greater length of time. By comparison, all other fighters require their engines to go to after-burner to achieve supersonic speeds. This is not just our country but all the other countries fighters, as well. This consumes a tremendous amount of fuel and greatly limits an aircraft's range.

The F/A–22 is also the most maneuverable fighter flying today. This is of particular importance when encountering newer Russian-made aircraft which boast a highly impressive maneuver capability.

Yet a further advantage resides in the F/A–22s radar and avionics. When entering hostile airspace, one F/A–22 can energize its radar system, enabling it to detect and engage enemy fighters far before an enemy's system effective range.

However, one of the most important capabilities of Raptor is often the most misunderstood. Many critics of the program state that, since much of the design work for this aircraft was performed during the Cold War, it does not meet the requirements of the future. I believe that this criticism is misplaced. The F/A–22 is more than just a fighter it is also a bomber. In its existing configuration it is able to carry two 1,000 pound GPS-guided JDAM bombs. Shortly, it will be able to carry the small diameter bomb and in 2008 the aircraft's radar system will be enhanced with a ''look-down'' mode enabling the Raptor to independently hunt for targets on the ground.

All of these capabilities are necessary to fight what is quickly emerging as the threat of the future—the anti-access integrated air defense system. Integrated air defenses include both surface to air missiles and fighters deployed in such a fashion as to leverage the strengths of both systems. Such a system could pose a very real possibility of denying U.S. aircraft access to strategically important regions during future conflicts.

It should also be noted that for a comparably cheap price, an adversary can purchase the Russian SA–20 surface-to-air missile. This system has an effective range of approximately 120 nautical miles and can engage targets at greater then 100,000 feet, much higher then the service ceiling of any existing American fighter or bomber. The Russians have also developed a family of highly maneuverable fighters, the SU–27/30/35, which have been sold to such nations as China. Of further import, 59 other nations have fourth generation fighters.

It has also been widely reported in the aviation media that the F–15C, our current air superiority fighter, it not as maneuverable as newer Russian aircraft, especially the SU–35. However, the F/A–22 is designed to defeat an integrated air defense system. By utilizing its stealth capability, the F/A–22 can penetrate an enemy's airspace undetected and, when modified, independently hunt for mobile surface-to-air missile operational systems. Once detected, the F/A–22 would then be able to drop bombs on those targets.

Some correctly state that the B–2 bomber and the F–117 could handle those assignments. However, the F/A–22 offers the additional capacity of being able to engage an enemy's air superiority fighters, such as the widely proficient SU–35. Therefore, the Raptor will be able to defeat, almost simultaneously, two very different threats that until now have been handled by two different types of aircraft.

Despite the obvious advantages of this aircraft, there has been resistance to this program in the halls of Congress. As with many military procurement programs, the primary concern is, naturally, cost. This, in part, led to the planned procurement of the aircraft to be reduced from over 600 to the current planned procurement of 277.

In response, the supporters of the F/A–22 devised a new procurement strategy called ''Buy to Budget.'' This strategy capped the total cost for the procurement of the aircraft and forced the Air Force and the Raptor's primary contractor, Lockheed Martin, to cut the cost of the plane. These efforts, so far, have been successful, and last year an additional F/A–22 was procured, solely based on savings.

Unfortunately, as with any complicated aircraft, especially one whose computer power equals that of two supercomputers, schedule delays have occurred. However, these delays have also largely been resolved. Lockheed Martin has placed the former head of its very successful F–16 production line in charge of F/A–22 production. As a result, it is believed that F/A–22 production will be back on schedule by early 2005.

Now, despite this progress, criticisms of the aircraft continue. As a result, colleagues on the Senate Armed Services Committee have reduced the number of aircraft to be purchased this year to 22. In contrast, the President's budget requested 24 aircraft—2 more.

To be fair, it sounds reasonable to see this as a modest reduction in order to ensure existing production schedules are met and possibly decrease the cost of the aircraft. However, production schedules will be met. Due to the already drastic reduction in the number of aircraft to be procured, many have developed the very real concern that there will not be enough aircraft to meet the operational needs of the Air Force, based on the proven Air Expeditionary Force model. Not having sufficient numbers of F/A–22 for some of these contingencies would be an abdication of our congressional responsibilities, especially now that we are faced with war.

However, I wish to add one final point. I have talked about the capabilities of this aircraft and how those capabilities are designed to defeat the threats of the future. But what impressed me most was the way the pilots and ground crews of Tyndall Air Force Base spoke about the F/A–22. They are truly excited about its potential. They understand that this aircraft will ensure American dominance of the skies for the next half century. These young men and women stand ready to sacrifice so much for us. We owe them the best our country has to offer. Therefore, I respectfully urge the Senate to restore the President's budget proposal on this remarkable aircraft.

PRESERVING TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE

Mr. President, I rise today to speak about preserving traditional marriage—an institution which is under attack from so many directions today.

This past week, as everyone by now undoubtedly knows, the Goodridge decision by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court went into effect in Massachusetts. This 4-to-3 decision by the Massachusetts Supreme Court found a constitutional right to same-sex marriage and prohibits the State from defining marriage as between a man and a woman.

According to reports, more than 1,000 same-sex couples have been ''married'' pursuant to the radical change handed down by the split court.

We all know that it is the legislative branch, and not the judiciary, that makes the laws—or at least should make the laws. But there are some courts, such as the one in Massachusetts, that want to take away the public policy role that the legislatures and people have always had. Senator TALENT of Missouri and I wrote an opinion editorial on this issue that was published in Monday's Washington Times. I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Washington Times, May 17, 2004]

THE BENCH VS. PEOPLE; CAN A JUDGE'S WILL BECOME A LAW?

(By Orrin Hatch and Jim Talent)

In the debate over traditional marriage, the cultural dominoes are falling in the wrong direction. Activist judges, who specialize in taking issues away from the people and deciding those issues instead, intend to make traditional marriage a thing of the past. Their decisions, like the one that will allow Massachusetts clerks to begin issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples this week, and the aggressive political and legal strategy driving them, make clear that protecting traditional marriage will require amending the Constitution.

America's founders believed, as James Madison put it, that the legislative branch ''necessarily predominates'' in a representative democracy. We all learned in civics class that the legislative branch makes the law, which means the judicial branch doesn't. Most state constitutions go beyond separating the branches, and two-thirds explicitly prohibit judges from legislating. With only the power to interpret the law, the judiciary is supposed to be, in Alexander Hamilton's words, the ''least dangerous'' branch.

Times have changed. Judges have become the most dangerous branch by following former Chief Justice Evans Hughes' view that the law is ''whatever the judges say it is.'' Judges cannot change the literal words of the Constitution or a statute, so they make law by changing the meaning of those words. The obvious danger is that if the law means whatever the judges say it means, judges control the law, run the country and define the culture.

Since before the founding of the republic, legislatures enshrined the traditional view that marriage is a union of a man and a woman. Only in the last decade have judges attempted to substitute their own views, effectively amending state constitutions by judicial fiat and imposing new marriage policies. Neither the people nor their legislatures chose any such thing.

In addition to judges acting like legislatures, some rogue public officials are acting like judges. Although California law defines marriage as between a man and a woman, for example, San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom simply declared it unconstitutional, and same-sex couples from at least 46 states have obtained a marriage license there. Similarly, same-sex residents of more than 30 states have obtained marriage licenses in Multnomah County, Ore. Litigation is inevitable as they challenge their home states to recognize these same-sex unions.

This crisis requires a constitutional solution for at least three reasons. First, amending the Constitution is the only way of reining in the activist judges who will otherwise undermine traditional marriage. Neither judicial self-restraint nor the separation of judicial from legislative power is enough. Nor, it appears, are explicit bans on legislation by judges in state charters. The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court's decision that same-sex couples may wed, which goes into effect this week, is a legislative act openly defying the Massachusetts Constitution's edict that judges ''shall never exercise the legislative'' power.

Second, the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) will no longer effectively protect traditional marriage. While the Constitution requires that states give each other's judicial proceedings ''full faith and credit,'' it also lets Congress make exceptions. Supported by 79 percent of House members, 85 percent of senators and signed by Bill Clinton, DOMA guarantees that one state need not recognize another's non-traditional union. Even so, federal and state court decisions since DOMA have made legal analysts, enthusiastically or grudgingly, concur that DOMA itself likely will not survive a court challenge before activist judges.

Third, amending the Constitution of the United States is the only way for the people of the United States to take this issue back. ''We the people'' established the Constitution, and only we can rightfully amend it by the single process outlined in the charter, a process that excludes the judicial branch. No amendment on any subject becomes part of the Constitution unless supported by two-thirds of Congress and three-fourths of the states. Amendments by judges, by contrast, defy the people and lack their consent.

The first right of the people is to govern themselves. Activist judges take away that right, sapping democracy's legitimacy and vitality. When courts deny the people the right to decide cultural issues for themselves, they undermine both the freedom and the opportunity to form consensus provided by self-government. Americans on both sides of the marriage debate deserve to have their voice heard and the potential to make it effective. Such civic participation in elections, through legislatures, or in amending the Constitution, is an antidote to judicial activism. Defending the people's right to govern themselves generally and protecting traditional marriage specifically require responding to this judicial activism by amending the U.S. Constitution.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I will not read it, but I will say that people have the right to govern themselves. When a court forces a radical decision on the people—well before the people have had the opportunity to oppose the change—it dramatically undermines democracy's vitality and legitimacy.

Some of the comments from the first same-sex couples to take advantage of the Massachusetts court decision underscore what is wrong with deviations from our culture of traditional marriage. According to the Boston Herald, the first recipients of a Provincetown, MA, same-sex marriage license said: ''the concept of forever is overrated.'' One gentleman in this couple added that he, as a bisexual, and his partner, who is gay, ''think it's possible to love more than one person and have more than one partner. In our case, it is, so we have an open marriage.'' I am sorry, but this simply is not a marriage. I simply do not understand why these two men felt they needed to be declared to be married by the State. There is not even a pretense of fidelity here.

The reason that maintaining traditional marriage is so important can be summed up in one word, and that is ''children.'' Children are simply better off with a mother and a father than with two mothers or two fathers or any other alternative arrangement. Advocates for same-sex marriage cite studies to the contrary, but, as Professor Steven Nock, a leading marriage scholar at the University of Virginia, points out, ''not a single one was conducted according to generally accepted standards of scientific research.'' Not a single one of those studies was conducted according to generally accepted standards of scientific research.

Marriage is not about adult desires for affirmation and benefits; it is about the well-being of children. Two men being intimate are simply not the same as a husband and a wife, and alternative family forms are not just as good as traditional families. The fact is that fathers and mothers both matter to children. The science confirms this, but common sense tells us this as well.

Some advocates for same-sex marriage argue that traditional marriage will continue the same as before. Unfortunately, this has not been the experience of other countries. Some in Scandinavia, for example, witnessed a dramatic drop in traditional marriages once same-sex marriages were permitted or the equivalent thereof. The net effect was to diminish the importance of marriage altogether, and that is what will happen here if we do not maintain the traditional definition of marriage between a man and a woman.

It has become clear that we need a constitutional solution to this problem. There is simply no other means of reining in activist judges who seek to impose their will and not their judgment. Some say the Defense of Marriage Act is adequate enough, but based on decisions, such as Lawrence v. Texas, this statute will undoubtedly be struck down. People across the political spectrum, including such liberal stalwarts as Professor Lawrence Tribe, agree that this is inevitable.

Without a constitutional amendment, we are headed for a resolution by the U.S. Supreme Court. We should not and cannot wait for this to happen. We simply must protect traditional marriage now by passing a constitutional amendment.

Some suggest that it is not ''conservative'' to amend the Constitution over such an issue. Baloney. Traditional marriage is perhaps the most fundamental institution in our culture and history. It dates back over 5,000 years. If the only way to protect this institution is by amending the Constitution—and we know that to be the case—then we have an obligation to do so.

What is worrisome to most constitutional scholars, including myself, is that if this supreme court case of one State—a 4-to-3 decision; hotly contested, not only by the court itself but in the State legislature and among the people of Massachusetts themselves—if that is allowed to stand, then will we, under article IV of the Constitution, the original Constitution even before the Bill of Rights was added to it, will we have to give in every other State full faith and credit under the full faith and credit clause to whatever is called marriage done within the State of Massachusetts? There are many constitutional scholars who say we will have to. That does not mean that Utah will have to have same-sex marriages done within our State or any other State in the Union.

It does mean we will have to recognize as valid same-sex marriages performed in Massachusetts. Now we have people coming from all over the country to Massachusetts to be married so that under the full faith and credit clause that marriage will have to be recognized in their respective States. I cannot begin to tell you the difficulties legally that will come from that type of an approach.

We simply need to resolve this problem. We need to resolve it in accordance with the will of the vast majority of people in this country. Cultural decisions such as this that have existed for over 5,000 years should not be thrown into the wastebasket by an activist court in one very activist liberal State. Nor should an activist court in an activist conservative State impose its will on us. We should, of course, allow the elected representatives of the people to make this decision.

If you don't do that, then you have nothing but another huge, unnecessary, harmful to America culture battle, perhaps for decades. We can name the decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court that have caused us to be torn apart in America over a number of issues that, 5 to 4, 7 to 2, the Supreme Court has culturally imposed upon everybody in America.

I don't believe in discrimination of any kind. But like a number of my colleagues in this body, I draw the line when it comes to traditional marriage. Traditional marriage is one of the most important cultural concepts in any country's history but certainly our country's history. This debate needs to occur. We need to think it through. We need to have a constitutional amendment, and we need to support whatever constitutional amendment we can get to resolve this matter.

Having said that, we need to be fair to those who have a different point of view and to find some way of accommodation. Because it is a disgrace that a gay partner cannot go into an intensive care unit to care for or hold hands with or to be with his or her partner, just to mention one. We have to think this through. One way of thinking it through is to come to a conclusion that one liberal State's 4-to-3 decision by a

Supreme Court should not bind everybody in America to recognize something that I believe will be absolutely catastrophically disruptive to our culture.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas is recognized.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I say, while the Senator from Utah is here, how much I appreciate his wise words on so many subjects that are important to our country and to our culture and to American families. He has spoken eloquently about the importance of persevering in Iraq, the importance of traditional families as the bulwark of our culture and in the best interest of children, and the importance of making sure we keep the American military the dominant force in the world by making sure we transform in particular our Air Force by the implementation of the F–22 Raptor which, not coincidentally, is built in part in the State of Texas which is important both for our national security and in terms of the jobs it creates in my State.

I say to the Senator how much I appreciate him and his wisdom and his great leadership on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, if my colleague will yield, I thank my colleague for his kind remarks. My colleague from Texas served on the Texas Supreme Court. He understands these issues very well, serving in a tremendous fashion on the Senate Judiciary Committee. I feel so blessed as chairman to have him and the other freshmen Senators on that committee, each one of whom is playing a significant role in this body and on that committee. I thank my colleague.

Mr. CORNYN. I thank the Senator for those kind comments.

SYMBOLS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, as we all know, symbols are important. Symbols, even more than our words, are powerful communicators of intent, of value, and of commitment. We know, for example, what the pictures that have recently come to light of the abuse of a few Iraqi prisoners in the Abu Ghraib prison have communicated in a way that mere words could not. Indeed, out of all of the terrible consequences of that criminal activity by a few, there has been a positive. I believe that positive is, No. 1, the commitment of the Department of Defense, from the Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld, all the way down to the troops in the prison themselves, to make sure we get to the facts, that we hold those guilty accountable, and that we do so in a public way which demonstrates that in a democracy we do things in a way that people can judge for themselves whether they are being handled appropriately.

I trust by the time we get through with these investigations—about six of them in all—and by the time the prosecutions of the seven who have been charged with criminal conduct, misconduct, and possibly others who will be charged as well, by the time we get through, the world will see our commitment to the rule of law and to minimum standards of human decency.

When I think about symbols, I also think about, for example, what has happened in Madrid with the attacks on the trains there which killed many of that country and which, in the eyes of some, caused Spain, because of the election, to pull their troops out of Iraq. We know there is very likely a different explanation for the outcome of that election, but I am haunted by the words of GEN John Abizaid, commander of the central command, including Iraq and that whole troubled part of the world, who said al-Qaida was emboldened as a result of the reaction that they perceived occurred by that attack. That is another example of how symbols are enormously powerful in ways that it is hard for us to articulate or explain in mere words.

I would like to also talk about another symbol that I think is very important for us, beyond the perseverance that we see, and that Senator HATCH talked about so eloquently, of our troops in the battlefield who have put themselves in harm's way to protect us and to liberate the Iraqi people. I believe there is another important symbol that we can send which will tell our enemies that we are absolutely committed to defending ourselves against terrorism. That is the legislation that has been filed today by Senator KYL of Arizona, of which I am a proud cosponsor.

This bill is one page in length. It is very short. I believe it is a powerful symbol. If we act, as I believe we should, to adopt this legislation, that would send a powerful message to our enemies that we remain committed to defending ourselves in this new and dangerous world we live in since 9/11 and that we have not lost our resolve in Iraq or Afghanistan or anywhere else where the war on terrorism rages.

This bill that has been filed would simply do this: It would take the USA PATRIOT Act, which has a sunset provision that causes a number of elements of that bill to expire at the end of next year, and it simply repeals that sunset provision, thus making the USA PATRIOT Act a permanent part of our laws.

Yesterday, we heard from FBI Director Robert Mueller, who voiced strong support for renewing the PATRIOT Act, which this would do. He said, for 2½ years the PATRIOT Act has proved extraordinarily beneficial in the war on terrorism and has changed the way the FBI does business. Many of our counterterrorism successes, in fact, are the direct result of provisions included in the act, a number of which are scheduled to sunset at the end of next year.

I strongly believe it is vital to our national security to keep each of these provisions intact. Indeed, Director Mueller is not alone. We heard bipartisan support in testimony before the 9/11 Commission, which is studying lessons learned from that terrible event in our history and the aftermath, of what it is we can do to make our country stronger and to defend ourselves from the extremists who simply want to kill us and eliminate our way of life.

One by one, from former FBI Director Louis Freeh to former Attorney General Janet Reno to Attorney General John Ashcroft—just to name a few—they touted the impact of the PATRIOT Act in reducing the wall that prevented information sharing between criminal investigators and our counterterrorism intelligence officials. They talked about how important the PATRIOT Act was in bringing down that wall that prevented information sharing at the Federal level.

As a former State law enforcement officer myself, I can tell you, since 9/11, another thing that has made America safer is not just greater information sharing at the Federal level, between Federal agencies, but indeed it has also been the information shared with State and local law enforcement officials.

Director Mueller made that point again yesterday about how important it is that we work collectively, using all of our resources at the State, Federal, and local levels to make sure we protect this country and keep our citizens safe.

I ask unanimous consent that excerpts of quotations from a number of colleagues on both sides of the aisle, which I have reduced to one sheet, be printed in the RECORD following my remarks.

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

(See exhibit 1.)

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, with this background and context, you might wonder who would possibly object to this legislation that would repeal the sunset provision in the PATRIOT Act. Some might say, well, if the PATRIOT Act provisions are not set to expire until the end of next year, why now? My response is, why not?

Indeed, if we want to send a powerful message that we have maintained our resolve and commitment to defend our country against the scourge of terrorism, this would be a powerful symbol, a powerful message that this body could send that our commitment is strong, that we will maintain our resolve, and we will fight the war on terrorism and defend ourselves from those who would kill our innocent civilians in this country and elsewhere; that we will maintain that resolve and we will fight until the very end.

So I think it is very important that we pass this legislation. Let me also mention, there is a bipartisan consensus which appears throughout Washington and throughout this country about how important the PATRIOT Act has been to protect American citizens; that there are those who would

use the tactic of fear to try to convince the American people—or at least some segment of the American people—that the PATRIOT Act jeopardizes their civil liberties. I must say the debate about the proper balance between civil liberties and security is not a new one. It is one that we have had since the beginning of this country, where we have attempted to strike that balance, where the Founding Fathers, when they gathered in Philadelphia, debated long and hard about how to maintain our civil liberties but at the same time provide the Federal Government enough power to do the things that only the Federal Government can do, such as protect our national security.

So it is not a new debate. I think, indeed, the debate is healthy. But it bothers me when we begin to see those who would use scare tactics to mislead the American people about their civil liberties being in jeopardy because of the existence of the PATRIOT Act.

Indeed, Senator Dianne Feinstein of California, with whom I serve on the Senate Judiciary Committee, asked the American Civil Liberties Union, ACLU, if they could document a single instance—just one—of the civil liberties of the American people being in jeopardy or being trampled upon because of the PATRIOT Act. She said it was reported back to her that they could come up with none. Zero. Zip.

That troubles me a great deal because of another thing I would like to mention, which is a solicitation I happened to receive in the mailbox at my residence from the American Civil Liberties Union, which attempted to use the PATRIOT Act as a fundraising tool by scaring the reader, saying that somehow the PATRIOT Act was jeopardizing their civil liberties, and indeed the only way the American people could protect themselves against the trampling of their civil liberties was to send money to the ACLU so they could fight against the PATRIOT Act on behalf of our civil liberties.

That solicitation troubled me a great deal. I cannot honestly say that it surprised me because we know that fear is a powerful motivator and, indeed, there are those who use fear to raise money for a variety of purposes. But I think it is important that the facts be known, and the fact is what Senator FEINSTEIN pointed out before the Senate Judiciary Committee; that when put to the test and asked to document a single instance of a violation of the civil liberties of any American citizen as a result of the passage of the PATRIOT Act, the ACLU could not come up with any.

So it is deeply disturbing but perhaps not surprising to see them take a contrary position, one designed to help them raise money and grow their membership in a mail solicitation sent to my home and, no doubt, to many other people in this country.

We also know that there are those in the political arena who would use the PATRIOT Act to scare the American people into believing that somehow President Bush, the Republican leadership in this Congress, or perhaps even Attorney General John Ashcroft who has taken a solemn oath to defend the laws of the United States, including the Constitution, indeed including the PATRIOT Act, that they would use the PATRIOT Act to scare people and to cause them to question the commitment of the leadership of this Nation of providing for the security of the American people, but at the same time question their commitment to protecting the civil liberties of the American people.

It is discouraging to see that sort of rhetoric. Ultimately, I believe the American people—they get it. If given the facts, they will make their own decision, and it will be a good decision based upon factual information. The problem is when people misstate the facts or simply mislead the American people and provide them false information, it is hard to reach the right conclusion if you do not have accurate information. That is why I sought to stand here today and talk about what the facts really are.

One last example I will give you, Mr. President, is about how much this rhetoric of fear, the scare tactics have been successful. I believe at last count, there were 317 city councils across this country, the governing body of cities across this country, that have passed resolutions condemning the USA PATRIOT Act because they fear that the existence of the act has somehow compromised the civil liberties of their constituents.

I say that because it is a grave concern when public officials use the bully pulpit that we are provided by virtue of our office to provide their constituents with false information, whether wittingly or unwittingly, and it would be my sincere hope that each of those 317 city governments would reconsider their decisions in light of the information I have shared with you this afternoon and that others would be glad to share with anyone.

The truth is, we are a diverse country. We have different experiences. We come from different regions. We have different traditions in many ways, but we are all Americans. We are all committed to our national security and the protection of our people, just as we are dedicated to the protection of the civil liberties of every American. While we may have a variety of opinions about the wisdom of this or any other legislation or any other course of action, everyone is entitled to their opinion, but no one is entitled to mislead the American people about the facts.

In conclusion, if this body were to take up this legislation quickly, as I hope it will, and were to pass this legislation that would repeal the sunset provision in the PATRIOT Act, which would otherwise cause portions of the act to cease to exist at the end of next year, if we were to pass this legislation in a consensus, bipartisan fashion, it would send a powerful message to our enemies that our determination remains strong, that we remain resolved to do whatever is necessary to protect the American people, whether it is by defending them from the terrorists who would strike us at home by breaking up terrorist cells, by getting good intelligence and other information we need in order to defeat the terrorists before they can attack, such as they did so tragically on 9/11, or whether the issue is our resolve to finish the job we have started in Iraq and to honor those who have sacrificed so much to protect our national security and to make sure that the blessings of liberty are exported beyond our borders to the people of Iraq who have previously known only oppression and tyranny at the hands of a terrible tyrant such as Saddam Hussein.

I thank the Chair for the time I have been given to talk on this important subject.

EXHIBIT 1

Senator Baucus (D–MT): ''I believe the bill we passed today balances the needs of protecting the country from terrorism and protecting our rights as citizens of this great country.'' (Senator Baucus, Press Release, October 25, 2001)

Senator Schumer (D–NY): ''If there is one key word that underscores this bill, it is 'balance.' ... The balance between the need to update our laws given the new challenges and the need to maintain our basic freedoms which distinguish us from our enemies is real.'' (Senator Schumer, Congressional Record, October 25, 2001)

Senator Schumer (D–NY): ''[T]he scourge of terrorism is going to be with us for a while. Law enforcement has a lot of catching up to do. There is no question about it. In this bill, at least, we give them fair and adequate tools that do not infringe on our freedoms but, at the same time, allow them to catch up lot more quickly.'' (Senator Schumer, Congressional Record, October 25, 2001)

Senator Levin (D–MI): '[T]he antiterrorism bill [Patriot Act] which the Senate is about to pass reflects the sentiments the American people have expressed since the events of September 11—that we must act swiftly and strongly to defend our country without sacrificing our most cherished values. The Senate antiterrorism legislation meets that test. It responds to these dangerous times by giving law enforcement agencies important new tools to use in combating terrorism without denigrating the principles of due process and fairness embedded in our Constitution.'' (Senator Levin, Congressional Record, October 25, 2001)

Senator Daschle (D–SD): ''This reflects the balance between protection of civil liberties and privacy with the need for greater law enforcement.'' (Leon Bruneau, ''U.S. Senate Passes Anti-Terror Bill, Sends it to Bush for Signature,'' Agence France-Press, October 25, 2001)

Senator Biden (D–DE): ''The agreement reached has satisfied me that these provisions will not upset the balance between strong law enforcement and protection of our valued civil liberties.'' (Senator Biden, Congressional Record, October 25, 2001)

Senator Feinstein (D–CA): ''As we look back at this massive, terrible incident on September 11, we try to ascertain whether our Government had the tools necessary to ferret out the intelligence that could have, perhaps avoided those events. The only answer all of us could come up with, after having briefing after briefing, is we did not have

those tools. This bill aims to change that. This bill is a bill whose time has come. This bill is a necessary bill. And I, as a Senator from California, am happy to support it.'' (Senator Feinstein, Congressional Record, October 25, 2001)

Mr. CORNYN. I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, May 31 is Memorial Day, the day we set aside each year to remember and to honor those men and women who gave their lives in service to our Nation.

Memorial Day used to be called Decoration Day in the old South—the day that we reminisce in our memories of our past, our locking with hands or words our lives with others, our children, grandchildren, and people whose voice is forever stilled.

This year, this day has even more meaning as we once again find our men and women in uniform engaged in hostilities in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Freedom does not come cheap. It is too often paid for not only in dollars but in the lives of America's best sons and daughters.

All across the Nation out there, all across the prairies, the plains, the green valleys, the mountains, the rivers, the rust belt, the East, the North, the South, and the West—all across the Nation, families will be visiting the gravesites of their loved ones.

Long, long be our hearts of such memories filled like the vase in which roses have once been distilled. You may break, you may shatter, the vase if you will, but the scent of the roses will hang round it still.

Among rows of tombstones adorned with small American flags, they will lay wreathes and pay their respects to those who have served our country with honor and distinction in our Nation's wars.

This national tribute will provide the opportunity for mothers and fathers not only to tell their children about the sacrifices of their ancestors and relatives but also to pass on valuable lessons about history and about humanity. But even when our world is beset with the worst of human nature, the best of human nature can rise above it all.

I am reminded today of the story of the ''Immortal Chaplains'' of World War II, Rev. George I. Fox, Rev. Clark V. Poling, Father John P. Washington, and Rabbi Alexander D. Goode. When the U.S troopship *Dorchester* was torpedoed by a Nazi submarine, with only minutes to live, these four chaplains calmly handed out what lifejackets there were on the ship to the panicking passengers, the soldiers and sailors. When they ran out of life preservers to hand out, what did these four chaplains do?

Can you see it? Can you envision a moment like that?

They took off their own life preservers and gave them away. They gave them to others so others might live.

Then, as the *Dorchester* was sinking, what did they do? They locked arms and prayed, and sank to their watery graves. They prayed, locked arms, and went to their watery graves.

While some among us might not hesitate to take off that life preserver and give it to our spouse, certainly, our child, or a parent, how many of us would give it to a stranger, as did the immortal chaplains. Self-sacrifice, unity, and respect for each other and each other's faith were the qualities they displayed that night, and in so doing these four chaplains of four different faiths demonstrated their deep faith in God and they honored the mission of our great Nation.

These four chaplains, as I say, were of different faiths. Two were Protestant ministers, was one a Jewish rabbi, and the fourth was a Roman Catholic priest. But they were united as one in their devotion to their Maker, their love for their fellow man, and their willingness to sacrifice so that others might live. It was these convictions that inspired one of the most memorable events not just of World War II but of all time.

Memorials in their honor have been built in the country. The U.S. War Department posthumously awarded them the Distinguished Service Crosses. The U.S. Postal Service issued a special stamp to commemorate their sacrifice. Congress has honored them by authorizing the Four Chaplains Medal and with a resolution designating a Four Chaplains Day.

Think about it. Amidst all the great and important military leaders such as Generals Patton, MacArthur, and Eisenhower, amidst all the great and powerful political leaders of that war such as Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill, we also remember these four humble men of God.

Yes, think about it. Amidst all of the destruction and all of the carnage of that war, destruction, and carnage in the form of an Auschwitz, Pearl Harbor, Dresden, and Hiroshima, we remember the immortal chaplains for their act of kindness and mercy.

Yes, think about it. Amidst all the misery and tragedy of that war, amidst all the hate and all the horror of that war, we still remember the four chaplains and their act of heroism and love.

Today, a half century later, we again find ourselves in a terrified world, a world that we did not seek, a terrifying world, a world that we did not want but one in which we must endure if we are to prevail. War, disease, crime, and terrorism have transformed our land into a code red world.

Every generation has its turmoil. That is, sadly, the way of the world. And this particular terrifying era of adversity and challenge in which we now find ourselves, we would do well to bear in mind those immortal chaplains, the four who refused to succumb to fear and performed selfless acts of kindness and mercy.

They truly, truly personified the greatest of men in all generations. The sacrifice of those four men endures as an inspiring act of humanity. For as Jesus said: Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for another.

So on this Memorial Day, we will pray as we remember those American service men and women who now stand in harm's way yonder on the other side, yonder in a faraway land. We will pray for those who are serving our Nation in the dangerous climates of Iraq and Afghanistan. They are doing their duty for the families they love, and we will pray for their families and for the families who have already lost loved ones, who daily see that empty chair at the table, the chair which never again will be filled, that place at the table which will forever be empty.

And as we pray, we will recall the words of the Scriptures from Psalm 127: ''Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.''

So I close with lines written by Joyce Kilmer.

''DULCE ET DECORUM EST''

The bugle echoes shrill and sweet,
But not of war it sings to-day.
The road is rhythmic with the feet
Of men-at-arms who come to pray.

The roses blossom white and red
On tombs where weary soldiers lie;
Flags wave above the honored dead
And martial music cleaves the sky.

Above their wreath-strewn graves we kneel,
They kept the faith and fought the fight.
Through flying lead and crimson steel
They plunged for Freedom and the Right.

May we, their grateful children, learn
Their strength, who lie beneath this sod,
Who went through fire and death to earn
At last the accolade of God.

In shining rank on rank arrayed
They march, the legions of the Lord;
He is their Captain unafraid,
The Prince of Peace . . . Who brought a sword.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, Memorial Day is always a time for our country to gratefully remember the brave men and women and their families who risked their lives in defense of our country and our fundamental American values.

This year is a special time because we will dedicate a long awaited national memorial for the 16 million men and women who fought in World War II, including the 400,000 Americans who paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country during the war. Almost 234,000 West Virginians served in World War II. At that time, it was 36 percent of the Mountain State's male population,

and that was the fourth highest participation rate in the country. They deserve this national tribute. Indeed it is long past due.

There are 4 million living World War II veterans who should be proud and honored this Memorial Day. The families of veterans who are no longer with us should take pride to remember the sacrifice of their loved ones, and share those stories with relatives and friends. Such memories are important to pass down to the next generation who can take inspiration from the ordeals and triumphs of their own family members who were part of our ''Greatest Generation.''

The World War II Memorial which will be formally dedicated on May 29th is the end result of an almost 20-year fight. I am honored that I was able to cast a vote to help complete it. It will be an enduring, poignant reminder of the tens of thousands of individual and collective instances of leadership and sacrifice during World War II

Today that tradition of leadership and sacrifice continues as so many Americans, including scores of West Virginians serve in the Armed Forces, the National Guard and Army Reserves. Each member of the military, wherever they are stationed are defending our country and protecting American values, but we are especially mindful of our military personnel serving in regions of conflict like Iraq and Afghanistan. They are the new generation of West Virginia veterans who deserve our admiration and respect.

As we celebrate Memorial Day Weekend, I hope we all take some time to remember what the holiday is truly about. This is a day designed to honor all the men and women who put their lives on the line to defend and protect the American way of life, from the beaches of Normandy to the deserts of Iraq. Their sacrifice deserves our eternal gratitude and support not just on Memorial Day, but every day.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate Memorial Day and pay tribute to the brave men and women who have given their lives in defense of the freedom and liberties we cherish in this great Nation.

Throughout this country, Memorial Day, originally recognized as Decoration Day, is a day to remember those who have died in service to our Nation.

It was first widely observed on May 30, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers by proclamation of General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former sailors and soldiers. Over a century later, in 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May. Today, thousands of people attend Memorial Day ceremonies across the country to commemorate this special day.

This year, our observance of this national holiday is marked by the opening of the National World War II Memorial in our Nation's capital. Authorized by President Clinton in 1993, this national memorial will be the first of its kind dedicated to all who served during World War II.

It is during this Memorial Day weekend, in conjunction with the new memorial dedication, that Americans will honor the nearly 16 million who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II, the more than 400,000 who died, and the millions who supported the war effort from home.

According to the Department of Defense, more citizens from California served in World War II than any other State. And an estimated 457,000 World War II veterans currently live in California. That generation, led by the Nation's Armed Forces, defended America's ideals during World War II and changed the world in the process.

At this moment, another generation faces an equally difficult challenge that will define the world for many years to come. Today, we face a new foe, terrorism, which threatens the very freedoms that World War II was fought to protect. The battleground this time is less clear. Indeed, the threat of terrorism exists all over the world—not merely in the Middle East, but also on our shores.

The war on terror is a massive effort that will require the highest level of commitment and dedication possible to enable America and her allies to prevail. Today over 1.6 million men and women serve in active duty spread throughout 67 countries. California alone provides over 182,000 military and civilian personnel.

In Afghanistan, American troops, along with a multinational coalition, have defeated the Taliban regime, striking a severe blow to al-Qaida's operation in that country. Our forces have enabled Afghans to draft a constitution, laying the groundwork for a democratic government. Women will soon have the right to vote and hold office. Girls are being educated in schools again. Nonetheless, there is still much work to be done to secure the country and ensure the basic rights of Afghan citizens.

The military success in Afghanistan has not come without sacrifice. No example drives home this point more than the death of Army Ranger Pat Tillman, killed in action a few weeks ago while on a mission in southeastern Afghanistan.

Tillman, a native of San Jose, California, was an All-American football player at Arizona State who later went on to play professionally with the NFL's Arizona Cardinals.

At the height of his career, he walked away from pro football to serve his country during wartime. On April 23, 2004, Tillman became one of 110 U.S. soldiers killed during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. His life was a model of sacrifice.

The war in Iraq has proven to be an even more difficult task. Although our Armed Forces have removed Saddam Hussein from power and taken steps to set up a transitional democratic government run by the people of Iraq, our troops are in a very dangerous situation. It is rare that a day goes by without the report of another American who has fallen victim to the attacks of Iraqi insurgents. As of May 21, 92 Californians have lost their lives in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

One of them was Marine Lance Corporal Brad Shuder, 21, of El Dorado Hills, east of Sacramento. He enlisted a month after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and fought in the invasion of Iraq last year before returning for a second tour.

Shuder, a South Korean native, was adopted at 22 months and grew up to be a gourmet cook and opera lover. He was killed on April 12 of this year.

I would also like to take a moment to name the other Californians who have given their lives in Iraq.

Specialist Marcos O. Nolasco, Chino; Private 1st Class Michael A. Mora, Arroyo Grande; Sergeant Brud J. Cronkrite, Spring Valley; Private 1st Class Brian K. Cutter, Riverside; Private 1st Class Lyndon A. Marcus Jr., Long Beach; Sergeant Marvin R. Sprayberry III, Tehachapi; Specialist Ramon C. Ojeda, Ramona; Specialist Trevor A. Wine, Orange; Specialist James L. Beckstrand, Escondido; Sergeant Adam W. Estep, Campbell; Staff Sergeant Abraham D. Penamedina, Los Angeles;

Private 1st Class Leroy Harris-Kelly, Azusa; Corporal Christopher A. Gibson, Simi Valley;Captain Richard J. Gannon II, Escondido;Sergeant Brian M. Wood, Torrance;Staff Sergeant Jimmy J. Arroyave, Woodland;Staff Sergeant Victor A. Rosaleslomeli, Westminster;1st Lieutenant Oscar Jimenez, San Diego;Private 1st Class George D. Torres, Long Beach;Private 1st Class Eric A. Ayon, Arleta;Staff Sergeant William M. Harrell, Placentia;1st Lieutenant Joshua M. Palmer, Banning;Lance Corporal Kyle D. Crowley, San Ramon;Staff Sergeant Allan K. Walker, Lancaster;Lance Corporal Marcus M. Cherry, Imperial;Lance Corporal Travis J. Layfield, Fremont;Specialist Casey Sheehan, Vacaville;Sergeant Michael W. Mitchell, Porterville;Lance Corporal Wiscowiche, William J. Victorville;Lance Corporal Andrew S. Dang, Foster City;Major Mark D. Taylor, Stockton;1st Lieutenant Michael W. Vega, Lathrop;Private 1st Class Joel K. Brattain, Yorba Linda/Brea;

Specialist Christopher K. Hill, Ventura;Specialist Eric U. Ramirez, San Diego;Sergeant Patrick S. Tainsh, Oceanside;Master Sergeant Jude C. Mariano, Vallejo;Sergeant Eliu A. Miersandoval, San Clemente;Specialist Jason K. Chappell, Hemet;Sergeant Keicia M. Hines, Citrus Heights;Specialist Michael A. Diraimondo, Simi Valley;Private 1st Class Jesse D. Mizener, Auburn;Specialist Justin W. Pollard, Foothill Ranch;Specialist Michael G. Mihalakis, San Jose;Staff Sergeant Richard A. Burdick, National City;Staff Sergeant Steven H. Bridges, Tracy;Specialist Arron R. Clark, Chico;Sergeant Ryan C. Young, Corona;Staff Sergeant Stephen A. Bertolino, Orange;Chief Warrant Officer (CW2) Christopher G. Nason, Los Angeles;Staff Sergeant Eddie E. Menyweather, Los Angeles;Specialist Rel A. Ravago IV, Glendale;Sergeant 1st Class Kelly Bolor, Whittier;Specialist Genaro Acosta, Fair Oaks;Staff Sergeant Paul A. Velasquez, San Diego;Private 1st Class Karina S. Lau, Livingston;2nd Lieutenant Todd J. Bryant, Riverside;Private 1st Class Steven Acosta, Calexico;Sergeant Michael S. Hancock, Yreka;Specialist Jose L. Mora, Bell Gardens;Corporal Sean R. Grilley, San Bernardino;Private 1st Class Jose Casanova, El Monte;Private Sean A. Silva, Roseville;Private 1st Class Pablo Manzano, Heber;Lieutenant Kylan A. Jones-Huffman, Aptos;Private 1st Class Daniel R. Parker, Lake Elsinore;Staff Sergeant David S. Perry, Bakersfield;Corporal Evan Asa Ashcraft, West Hills;Lance Corporal Cory Ryan Geurin, Santee;Lance Corporal Jason Tetrault, Moreno Valley;Specialist Paul T. Nakamura, Santa Fe Springs;Sergeant Atanasio Haro Marin Jr., Baldwin Park;Lance Corporal Jason William Moore, San Marcos;Captain Andrew David LaMont, Eureka;Corporal Douglas Jose Marencoreyes, Chino;Private 1st Class Jose F. Gonzalez Rodriguez, Norwalk;1st Lieutenant Osbaldo Orozco, Delano;Sergeant Troy David Jenkins, Ridgecrest;Corporal Jesus A. Gonzalez, Indio;Sergeant 1st Class John W. Marshall, Los Angeles;Private Devon D. Jones, San Diego;Corporal Erik H. Silva, Chula Vista;Lance Corporal Patrick T. O'Day, Sonoma;Gunnery Sergeant Joseph Menusa, San Jose;Private 1st Class Francisco A. Martinez-Flores, Los Angeles;Lance Corporal Jesus A. Suarez del Solar, Escondido;Sergeant Michael E. Bitz, Ventura;Corporal Randal Kent Rosacker, San Diego;Corporal Jose A. Garibay, Orange;Corporal Jose A. Gonzalez, Los Angeles;Lieutenant Thomas Mullen Adams, La Mesa.

The Pentagon reports that through today, America has incurred 797 casualties in Operation Iraqi Freedom and 120 deaths in Operation Enduring Freedom. And more than 4,800 men and women have been wounded in these conflicts.

Such grim statistics underscore the fact that the current administration must do more to seek international help, especially in Iraq, during these trying times. Additionally, we must provide the equipment necessary to keep our soldiers safe. At the very least, we owe our soldiers this for their tremendous sacrifice.

In closing, I am honored to take this time to join every American in saluting those individuals who have paid the ultimate sacrifice to uphold the ideals of our democratic Nation.

On Memorial Day, we renew the commitment of this great Nation to the common defense of the country and to the broader causes of peace and freedom from tyranny throughout the world.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, today I speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

On July 24, 2001, in Greeley, CO, Salvador Rivera, 24, was charged with beating his gay cousin. He was sentenced to 45 days in jail on work release and was also placed on 2 years of unsupervised probation and ordered to pay court costs and restitution.

Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

OFFSHORE OUTSOURCING OF AMERICAN JOBS

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, today I would like to discuss a major 40-page white paper my office has now released about the outsourcing of American jobs overseas, and the larger challenge it represents to our economic future. The paper attempts to reach beyond the current debate and focus on the next wave of this challenge, which potentially could affect high end research and development jobs, as well as manufacturing and call center jobs. The implications of this trend are profound: it threatens America's competitive advantage in an era when the entire world is competing based on free enterprise economics and open trade—one of our longstanding goals.

Seen in this light, the challenge is more fundamental, and requires that we fundamentally rethink America's competitiveness strategy over the long-term. What we have thought was our nation's ultimate competitive advantage—our high end R&D prowess—may be challenged.

There has been little informed discussion of the fundamental long term challenge of offshoring high end engineering, research and development jobs. Nor have many acknowledged how our nation's irresponsible fiscal policy has undermined U.S. competitiveness. The debate needs to focus on our own needs and solutions, and not simply decry other countries and their industries for rising to challenge us in the global economy.

To meet this challenge, we have to face some hard facts. The American economy may be failing to adapt to fundamental changes and to growing competition in the global economy. We are not just losing jobs—we may be losing critical parts of our innovation infrastructure, and with them, our competitive edge in the global marketplace. The offshore outsourcing of jobs is just the tip of an economic iceberg that America is sailing towards.

Here is one measurement of the size of it. An analysis by the Institute of Business and Economic Research at UC Berkeley estimates that 14 million American jobs are at risk. If that's accurate, our economic vitality and national security are in jeopardy. As the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology concluded recently, ''Maintenance of U.S. technical preeminence is not forever assured.'' Carly Fiorina put it more succinctly and memorably: ''There is no job that is America's God given right anymore.''

How do we reassert our world economic leadership and regain our innovation advantage in a more competitive world? And how do we do so without turning a blind eye to the very real

pain that many American workers are feeling as a result of the churning in the global job market? These are the big questions we must answer together—private and public sectors, business and labor, even Democrats, Republicans, and Independents.

But first, we have to better understand what is occurring. Outsourcing is not new. It is really just a variation of the division of labor, a defining feature of capitalism. In a competitive marketplace, with its premium on efficiency, businesses naturally focus their limited resources on their most profitable operations while subcontracting—or outsourcing—functions that can be performed more efficiently and cheaply elsewhere. Jobs shift as a result.

What is new about outsourcing today is its global reach. Technological innovations in transportation and communication have erased geographic borders. Physical proximity to the point of sale is no longer the absolute economic necessity it used to be, particularly for service jobs.

We know that manufacturing jobs have been shifting overseas for some time. But now the services sector is being hit hard by offshore outsourcing—and that hurts. The services sector provides 83 percent of America's jobs, employing 86 million people. It dominates our economy. Customer call centers and data entry facilities are being relocated to places where capable labor can be found at lower wage levels. High-speed digital technologies make a connection between Boston and Bangalore as fast as between Boston and Baltimore.

But offshoring is no longer limited to entry-level services jobs. Higher skilled professional jobs like computer chip design, programming, architecture, engineering, consulting, automotive design, and pharmaceutical research are beginning to go overseas. That is the bulk of the iceberg below the surface of the sea. The outsourcing of R&D is probably the most alarming illustration of this new problem. American companies now invest $17 billion in R&D abroad every year. IT multinationals have now established 223 R&D centers in China alone.

One study by Forrester Research estimates that over the next 15 years, 3.3 million U.S. service jobs and $136 billion in wages will move offshore. Another by McKinsey's Global Institute suggests that the number of U.S. services jobs lost to offshoring will accelerate at an annual rate of 30 to 40 percent during the next five years.

Because the government collects no official data on offshore outsourcing in the services sector, we cannot be at all certain of these figures. But we can be certain that, although the offshore outsourcing problem in the high-end services sector may not be acute at the moment, it will be in the near future if current trends continue. If a software programmer in India earning $7,000 a year can do the same work as a software programmer in the United States making $64,000 a year, it is only a matter of time before more of those jobs relocate overseas.

The Washington response to offshore outsourcing has been predictable: politicians and policy makers jump to predetermined conclusions and finger the usual suspects.

On the one hand, we have the do nothings who profess an abiding and absolute faith in laissez faire capitalism, and see any government intervention as self-defeating. In fact, they argue that jobs flowing overseas are healthy, that they are evidence that the system is working, and that we have nothing to worry about.

The problem with this view, of course, is that we do have something to worry about. Not only does rising unemployment take a real human toll, it also eats away at our ability to create new jobs. Advanced production capabilities and research and development jobs are strategic assets that have defined our nation's competitive advantage. While proximity to the point of sale is less critical, geography still matters in the innovation process. Countries and regions that cluster university and industry research, knowledge-based start-ups, capital for entrepreneurs support from larger firms, and advanced manufacturing—with the talent to support all of this capture new industries.

As we lose jobs to foreign countries, especially high-skilled services jobs, we lose critical parts of our innovation infrastructure—labor, capital, knowledge, facilities, and technology—and with them, the engine of job creation. To cash in on our crops, we are moving the farm—and with it, the promise of future economic harvests.

On the other hand, you have the do anythings who will do anything that might save some jobs today, even if it means losing more tomorrow. Protectionism is their favorite tool—raising higher and higher trade barriers on the unproven argument that it will make it harder and harder for jobs to go overseas.

In their attempts to build a tall wall to stop offshore outsourcing, the do anythings are falling into a trap. Trying to keep jobs in our own borders through protectionist measures will only keep other jobs out. It will also invite retaliation from beyond our borders that will cost us many of the millions of American jobs that are based on exports.

The bottom line is that both the do nothings and the do anythings are wrong. Neither gets to the heart of the outsourcing problem—America's failure to innovate. That's what we all need to do something—the right thing—about.

To stop offshore outsourcing and preserve American jobs, America needs to rise to the international competition and grow again through innovation. There is no other way. Leaving it all to the markets won't work. Hiding behind a wall won't work. Attempting to rig the game won't work. Only education, innovation, investment, trade, training and hard work will give us the growth and jobs we want and need.

In my white paper, I lay out a number of suggestions about how we can achieve this. Let me highlight a few.

First, we must encourage greater innovation and technology development. Basic research and development have been essential to creating the kind of technological breakthroughs that create jobs and reap profits. But the high costs and high risk associated with early stage R&D make the needed investments burdensome for many businesses. Federal funding is crucial here, but federal R&D spending as a percent of GDP has been in steady decline since the mid-1960's—it is less than half of what it was then.

We need to reinvest in R&D. And we need to reorganize our innovation ecosystem to bring on innovations much faster. Tax incentives for R&D investment are one means of doing so. We should make the R&D tax credit permanent, and restructure it to spur collaborative research.

We also need to look at the kind of R&D we do. Although the United States is overwhelmingly a service economy, our federal and corporate R&D is geared to manufacturing. Corporate R&D is now 68 percent of the total national R&D expenditures—and 62 percent of that amount is still focused on manufacturing. But much of the offshore outsourcing challenge will hit our services sector. That is why we must add a new services sector emphasis to our R&D investments. Government and industry should review their R&D portfolios and raise their investments in services research.

Second, we must recognize that no matter how much we innovate, some people are going to lose the jobs they have now. We need to shore up our safety nets to help those hurt by offshore outsourcing. We need, for example, to extend coverage of Trade Adjustment Assistance programs to support and retrain service workers who lose their jobs due to trade. We should also experiment with new concepts like wage loss insurance, offered as part of severance and paid for by a small percentage of the employer's savings from offshoring.

Third, we need to strengthen our trade policies. America will prosper by selling high value goods and services to other nations, not by shutting ourselves off from competition and markets. We need to innovate new goods and services and lower trade barriers abroad to start to reverse our trade deficits, so trade becomes a net jobs insourcer—not a net outsourcer. Overseas markets for American exports are critical to our economic well-being, already directly supporting 12 million American jobs and indirectly many, many more. We can't lose those jobs. We can and must add to them.

But pirates do prey in international economic waters, stealing American

jobs by breaking trade rules or exploiting trade loopholes. We need to crackdown on cheating—and that will take strong government action. Our Federal trade agencies are oriented to negotiating trade agreements; they focus less on the difficult implementation and enforcement of those agreements. We must do both.

Foreign currency manipulation and intellectual property theft are forms of piracy that also must be fought and stopped.

To illustrate the impact of unfair trade practices on American competitiveness, and what we can do about it, let me discuss one sector I have followed over the years—semiconductors, the highest end of U.S. manufacturing. In the 1980's, America was close to losing this sector to Japan. But we battled back, and thanks to innovations that grew from a creative public-private partnership called Sematech, we secured our world semiconductor dominance. It provided a key boost to our growth rate and IT leadership in the 90's.

But now, we are at risk of losing that dominance—this time to China. The Chinese government is using straight industrial subsidies to capture semiconductors: from value-added tax subsidies—which are in violation of WTO agreements—to plant subsidies, to worker subsidies. China's currency manipulation further skews the competition.

After neglecting this issue for too long, the U.S. Trade Representative finally insisted in March on consultations with the Chinese on VAT subsidies for semiconductors. If these talks fail, we should not hesitate to bring a WTO case against China. The loss of most of our semiconductor industry will not only weaken our economy—it will threaten our national security. The U.S. Department of Defense needs to reenter the R&D field with industry and work to spur new semiconductor advances.

Fourth, our talent base is what ultimately sizes our economy, yet the number of U.S. graduates in engineering and physical science is dropping 1 percent a year. In China, 45 percent of all graduating students received their degree in engineering. In the United States, it's only 5 percent. Education reforms are no longer a policy option for us. They are a necessity, from kindergarten through university diploma.

We also need a whole new approach to job training. This century, 60 percent of the new jobs will require skills held by only 20 percent of today's workforce. That is one huge skills gap that we must fill fast if we want to remain competitive. One way to do so is to build stronger partnerships between companies and community colleges to ensure workers get the training they need. Increasing the number of graduates in science, technology, engineering and mathematics through incentive grants and special scholarships is another way to fill the skills gap.

Updating our methods of training to 21st century standards is also important. One way to do so is to train workers by using interactive internet gaming technology to foster better knowledge retention, promote continual skills updating, and even have fun. IT has transformed many sectors—it is time it got to training.

Finally, we need to get our federal fiscal house in order. Our staggering $550 billion current annual deficit, and the course we are on to add $10 trillion to the deficit in the next decade, will eventually raise interest rates. The Medicare Trustees told us last month that our unfunded liabilities are $72 trillion. That's right—$72 trillion. Meanwhile, other nations are buying our debt and are acquiring too much influence over our future. Foreign nationals hold 46 percent of the U.S. national debt. China and Japan together hold $662 billion. We must get our fiscal house in order to stay strong, independent and competitive.

To begin to act on such proposals and meet the challenges of offshore outsourcing, we first need an injection of political will—bipartisan political will—and that's not easy to find in Washington these days.

In the mid-1980's, we faced a similar political deadlock on economic policy. We were in the midst of a recession and our two political parties were driven to the opposite poles of economic policy. Republicans favored deeper and deeper tax cuts to stimulate job growth while sending the deficit through the roof. Democrats pushed for more protectionism and an industrial policy. Neither side thought it could compromise without risking the support of its political base. It sounds familiar, doesn't it?

The creation of a bipartisan commission that focused on the unemployment problem in a cool-headed, depoliticized way helped to break the deadlock. The President's Commission on Industrial Competitiveness, known as the ''Young Commission,'' was proposed by President Reagan, supported by the Democratic Congress, and chaired by Helwett-Packard CEO John Young. It brought all sides to the table and forced each to acknowledge the hard facts that shaped the debate.

That Commission proposed the first generation of reforms that became a bipartisan competitiveness agenda. Public-private collaborations instead of industrial supports, R&D investments in information technology, became a foundation for the economic boom of the 90's.

That is exactly the kind of initiative we need today: a new Young Commission, charged with analyzing the impact of global economic changes on the American economy, including the offshore outsourcing problem, and offering nonpartisan proposals to preserve our innovation infrastructure and create more high-wage American jobs.

We face a dramatically different set of economic competitors now than in the 80's. We have a much more complex set of competitive problems. That's why we need a new generation of competitive solutions if we are going to restore our economic leadership. Some of these solutions will look similar to the kinds I am proposing in my white paper today. Some may not. But regardless, a consensus must be built that would rule out the extremes and rule in the progressive course needed to meet the new foreign competition.

At the beginning of the last century, America faced equally profound economic and social changes. In his inaugural address, President Theodore Roosevelt noted that, ''Modern Life is both complex and intense. And the tremendous changes wrought by the extraordinary industrial development of the last half century are felt in every fiber of our social and political being.''

He went on to say that, ''There is no good reason why we should fear the future. But there is every reason why we should face it seriously—neither hiding from ourselves the gravity of the problems before us, nor fearing to approach these problems with the unbending, unflinching purpose to solve them.''

To meet the challenge of offshore outsourcing, we need to summon up the same honesty, seriousness, and sense of national purpose that TR called for a century ago. If we do, I am confident we will prevail, the American economy will keep on growing, and the next generation of Americans will live better and better lives.

To conclude, I would like to submit for the record for the benefit of my colleagues a summary of the white paper, which is posted on my Senate website with the title ''Offshore Outsourcing and America's Competitive Edge: Losing out in the High Technology R&D and Services Sectors,'' that my staff and I have worked on in the hope it will stimulate a better, broader response to the long-term implications of offshore outsourcing. I want to thank my staffers Elka Koehler, Sara Hagigh, Bill Bonvillian, and Chuck Ludlam for their work on this report.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print the white paper summary in the RECORD.

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

SUMMARY OF WHITE PAPER

The United States has enjoyed unparalleled technological leadership for decades. Our capacity for innovation has continued to create jobs and raise living standards despite the ongoing migration of manufacturing to foreign nations in the past decade. However, a new, potentially more dangerous migration is upon us. The rising trend of outsourcing high technology manufacturing and high-end services jobs to overseas presents a new and fundamentally different phenomenon. This new trend is far bigger and more complicated than the current debate suggests. Key components of our innovation infrastructure such as knowledge and capital have become highly mobile. If our engineering, design, and research and development (R&D) capabilities continue to follow the manufacturing and services facilities going abroad,

our competitiveness will be weakened, putting our economic prosperity and national security at risk.

The offshoring of facilities, labor, capital, technology, and information not only hurts our workers, but also threatens the backbone of our knowledge-based economy. Emerging nations such as China and India have realized that technological leadership leads to economic prosperity. Their governments are committed to attracting business investments, technology transfer, and knowledge inflow into their countries through industrial policies, subsidies, and business incentives. The offshoring trend will most likely accelerate and spread as more U.S. companies figure out how to efficiently exploit these incentives, not to mention the large pools of educated low cost foreign labor. Enabled by high speed telecommunication connections, the recent migration of labor-intensive services jobs was primarily motivated by the potential of up to a 90% savings in labor costs.

The innovation structure that served us well in the face of less formidable competition is no longer sufficient in the face of this new fierce global competition. Key components of our innovation infrastructure are deteriorating as federal funding of R&D, the number of science and technology graduates, and business investments in the U.S. continue to decline. Our innovation capacity is further undermined by the massive budget deficits which threaten future federal investments in R&D and education, and increase our exposure to currency manipulation by foreign lenders. This subsequently leads to the loss of manufacturing and service jobs. Our competitiveness is further comprised by international trade agreements that are not adequately enforced when our trade partners fail to live up to their commitments.

We can no longer afford to continue in this Administration's path of denial and inaction. There are no assurances that we will remain a global leader in innovation, and maintain our jobs, our standard of living, and our global market share. If our current employment and education trends are an indication of where we are heading, we will eventually fall behind those countries that are aggressively investing in their people, education, R&D, and businesses.

It is time to begin a national debate on restoring U.S. competitiveness so that we can remain at the cutting edge of innovation. This report presents a five part strategy to addresss offshoring, including developing policies that encourage greater investments in federal and industrial R&D, K–16 education and lifelong training, commercialization and businesses, and technological infrastructures such as broadband. Concurrently, it is essential that we assist our displaced workforce by extending compensation benefits and providing rapid retraining programs. We need to confront emerging nations that are aspiring to lead by fighting for greater access to overseas markets for goods and services, enforcing fair trade practices, and vigorously defending our intellectual property rights. Lastly, we must address our nation's irresponsible fiscal policy which makes us dependent on foreign purchases of U.S. securities and facilitates currency manipulation, further exacerbating the loss of our manufacturing and services jobs. By taking these proactive steps, we can create an environment that enables Americans to invent and develop the future waves of innovations that will keep quality jobs in U.S. shores.

Following is a summary of my five-part strategy to address offshoring.

1. Improve Safety Nets to Assist Affected Workers

Extend coverage of Trade Adjustment Assistance programs to support and retrain displaced services workers

Provide 3 months notice to workers when they lose their jobs to offshoring

Encourage corporate-sponsored insurance for wage loss

Encourage proactive instead of reactive training, continuous skills updating (e.g. use of Internet gaming and other technologies)

Provide agile and rapid retraining for displaced workforce

Reform and enforce guest visa regulations

2. Encourage Greater Innovation and Technology Development

Increase federal funding in R&D, particularly early stage R&D

Encourage corporate investment in R&D (e.g. permanent and improved collaborative R&D tax credits)

Greater emphasis on services sector in R&D investments

Innovation in services (e.g. greater integration of IT advances in sectors such as healthcare, construction and education services)

Invest in broadband infrastructure

Create environment that rewards risk taken by firms (e.g. eliminate capital gains for new investments in small companies; ''make it in USA'' tax incentives to domestic firms; accelerate asset depreciation schedules)

3. Invest in Human Capital Through Education and Training

Revitalize workforce training and education by bridging institutional gaps between education and industry

Expand R&D tax credit to encourage industry-university collaboration on science and technology research

Stronger partnerships between companies and community colleges for worker training

Increase graduates in science, technology, engineering, mathematics through incentive grants and special scholarships

Enable retired scientists' participation in education

Improve college readiness through K–16 partnerships

4. Establish and Enforce Effective Trade Policies

Ensure greater access to world markets for U.S. exports

Link additional access to U.S. market to genuine liberalization in overseas markets in both goods and services

Bring WTO dispute settlement cases when trade violations occur

End unfair currency practices in international trade (enact S. 1592, ''Fair Currency Enforcement Act of 2003'')

Vigorously defend U.S. intellectual property rights to prevent foreign piracy and counterfeiting

Incorporate workers' rights and environmental protection in trade agreements

NINTH CIRCUIT JUDGESHIP AND REORGANIZATION ACT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today in support of a bill introduced last week by my colleague, Senator ENSIGN. I am pleased that he has taken the helm in addressing the many problems posed by an excessively large and cumbersome Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in his bill S. 2278. I am glad to add my name as a cosponsor of this bill. Montana sits in the Ninth Circuit, whose docket has grown in recent years. In 2003, 12,872 appeals were filed at the court, up almost 1,500 from the previous year. The Ninth Circuit Judgeship and Reorganization Act of 2004 will create two new circuit courts in addition to a restructured Ninth Circuit. The new Ninth Circuit would still contain California, and also Guam, Hawaii, and the Northern Marianas Islands. The new Twelfth Circuit would include Montana, as well as Arizona, Nevada, and Idaho. The new Thirteenth Circuit would comprise the remaining states: Alaska, Oregon, and Washington. I know many in the Senate have revisited this issue every year, and I am pleased to support this current bill.

Many times the judiciary in this country is bound to make unpopular but correct decisions, but lately, the Ninth Circuit has made decisions which I believe are both unpopular and wrong. Many Montanans who hold far more conservative views than the membership of the Ninth Circuit bench sitting in San Francisco were nonetheless bound to a particularly offensive decision made last year. The court found the phrase ''under God'' in the Pledge of Allegiance violated the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment when it is recited in school by our youngsters. The Supreme Court has heard this argument last month, and a decision is expected in July. This case highlights the disconnect between the San Francisco-based Ninth Circuit and my State of Montana which it supposedly represents. When I walk around Washington, DC, I see the presence of our forefathers and our tradition everywhere, which includes many references to God in our hallowed halls and on our currency. Many have given their lives in the name of God and country, and this faith has sustained us as a Nation. By limiting the words our children can utter in the classroom in support of this Nation and our faith, the Ninth Circuit has taken yet another step to remove all that is sacred for Americans. Americans know the words to patriotic songs, like ''God Bless America'' or ''America the Beautiful,'' but this may change if our Nation's young people are not permitted to sing them in a classroom. I find this decision extremely upsetting, because now more than ever, we need to teach our children a little more about faith in America and patriotism. There used to be a time when most young people felt compelled to serve their country, whether it be completed through military or volunteer service, but now it seems as though those numbers lessen every year. In America, we pride ourselves on the willingness of individuals to lend a helping hand, and I am saddened that the court has played an instrumental part in gradually eroding our Nation's values.

One of the other areas the Ninth Circuit has repeatedly addressed is land management, which usually has a negative effect on my State of Montana. One need only look to some of the court's recent decisions, which all share one commonality: they represent

the conclusions of a bench that is thoroughly unfamiliar with land use and its implications on Montana.

It is worth noting at the outset that many cases never make their way to the Ninth Circuit docket, simply because the parties know the fate of their cause. This is especially true for the Forest Service, which has lost many battles in front of the Ninth Circuit, and Montana is certainly not better off for it.

For example, in Native Ecosystems Council v. Dombeck, the Ninth Circuit found that the Forest Service violated the National Environmental Policy Act, NEPA, as well as the Endangered Species Act. *Native Ecosystems Council* v. *Dombeck*, 304 F.3d 886, 890, 9th Cir. 2002. In this case, environmental groups challenged the validity of the Darroch- Eagle timber sale by the Forest Service. At the district court level, the Montana judge felt so strongly that the environmental groups did not have a claim that he granted summary judgment in favor of the Forest Service. This is important given the legal significance of summary judgment. Even if all of the plaintiff's claims are true, there is no legal remedy available. The Ninth Circuit turned this decision on its head, and issued an injunction against the Forest Service so they could not proceed with the sale.

In a similar situation, the Montana district court again granted summary judgment for the Forest Service in 2003, and again, the Ninth Circuit reversed. In Sierra Club, Inc. v. Austin, an unreported case, the Ninth Circuit found that the Forest Service's post-burn plan for Lolo National Forest violated NEPA. According to a front-page story carried by the Missoulian in December, 2003, the post-burn project would have permitted salvage logging of 2,322 acres and commercial thinning of 2,470, no small undertaking by any means. Even though the court found that the water-quality assessment done by the Forest Service was not arbitrary and capricious, it nonetheless concluded that the actions by the Forest Service in the environmental impact statement, EIS, did not include analysis of the logging effects on unroaded areas, and therefore violated NEPA in that sense.

Also in 2003, the Ninth Circuit found the Forest Service had potentially violated portions of the Montana Wilderness Study Act in *Montana Wilderness Ass'n* v. *U.S. Forest Serv.*, 314 F.3d 1146, 9th Cir. 2003. This act was passed by Congress in 1977 to allow the study of certain lands, to be called wilderness study areas, so that they could maintain their wilderness character and possibly be included within the National Wilderness Preservation System. Since no final designation of a wilderness area had been given, the Forest Service had been operating under temporary rules for the past 25 years. Apparently, the Ninth Circuit found that there was an issue to be resolved by allowing the trial to proceed, and remanded the case to go ahead to trial. The case has now been appealed to the Supreme Court.

These three cases highlight recent action of the Ninth Circuit. The last two years have been extremely litigious ones for the Forest Service in Montana, and I regret the time and energy that the Forest Service has had to put forward on this issue, but especially the taxpayers' money involved needed to defend against all of these claims. The Ninth Circuit's sympathy for the claims by various environmental groups has provided an attractive solution to any local Montana court decision they may not like. Unfortunately, the taxpayers end up footing this bill, and the stewards who protect our forests are being second-guessed at every turn.

The Ninth Circuit is also rendered ineffective because of the size of its bench as well as its extensive geographic coverage. There are 47 judges on the bench, and as noted legal scholar Richard A. Posner once explained that the circuit is predisposed to ''judicial irresponsibility'' because of its size. One Ninth Circuit judge, Andrew Kleinfeld, said the judges do not even have the time to read one another's opinions, which provides little guidance to other judges or those affected by their decisions.

The problems with the Ninth Circuit are due to many factors, whether it be the geographic size of the region, the number of judges, or the impractical decisions issued by those judges. The legislation recently introduced will address this problem, so that Montanans will benefit from a more reasonable bench, which will reflect the opinions of those in our area, rather than those located near San Francisco.

In order to best preserve the common sense that Montanans pride themselves in, I am pleased to support this bill. Let's bring a little common sense back to the judicial system. This is certainly a step in the right direction.

CHARLES F. ALBAUGH'S DEDICATION TO PATRIOTISM

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, today I am proud to pay tribute to the late Charles F. Albaugh, a Vietnam era veteran from Fairhaven, MA. Mr. Albaugh passed away on April 14, 2002, but his love of his country continues to be an inspiration in southeastern Massachusetts.

Shortly after September 11, 2001, Mr. Albaugh was determined to express the emotions we all shared on that terrible day. Although confined to a wheelchair, he went to the interstate overpass running through his town of Fairhaven, MA, and placed American flags on it as a constant reminder to the thousands who passed by each day of the strength and unity of the American people.

Despite his physical limitations, he and his wife Mary Ann tended those flags every day on the Main Street overpass, no matter the weather. At its peak, this man's monument totaled 175 flags. And each night at dusk, he returned to the overpass with a lit votive candle to pray for the victims of 9/11. His presence was an inspiration to the community and soon drew volunteers to help maintain the flags.

Although Charles Albaugh has left us, his inspiration will be remembered permanently on the Main Street overpass in Fairhaven. On Memorial Day this year, a flagpole and plaque will be dedicated to his memory and to the patriotism and love of country we all share. A light will shine on the flag each night to remind us of Charles Albaugh's inspiration and dedication, and of the candle he lit in prayer each evening on that overpass.

I am pleased to join with those honoring Charles Albaugh and I know that my colleagues in the Senate join in commending their efforts to mark the difference he made in Southeastern Massachusetts.

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, earlier this month, the Nation marked National Suicide Prevention Week. Suicide takes the lives of more than 30,000 Americans each year and is the eighth leading cause of death in the United States.

According to a 2001 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study, suicide is the fourth-leading cause of death among children aged 7 to 17. Between 1981 and 1998, the period of the study, 20,775 people in that age group committed suicide, compared with 24,000 in that age group who died of cancer.

Suicide has long been considered an individual mental health issue, but experts are starting to view suicide as a broad public health issue. In 2001, the U.S. Surgeon General released a report citing suicide as a ''national public health problem,'' and announced a national strategy for suicide prevention. Central to that strategy is promoting awareness that suicide is, indeed, preventable.

The same CDC study also highlighted the role of guns in both youth suicide and homicides. During the study period, youth suicides increased by 44 percent, with gun-related suicides making up 80 percent of that increase. At the same time, the number of youths who committed murder with a firearm tripled, even as the total number of murders remained constant. This shows, according to the CDC, that suicide is linked to other social ills, like gun violence.

One of the Surgeon General's recommendations for preventing suicide is to reduce access to guns or other lethal means of suicide. His national suicide prevention strategy recommends not only a public campaign to reduce gun accessibility, but also urges the gun industry to improve firearm safety design.

Suicide is a national problem that demands our attention. Congress should do its part to help prevent suicide by encouraging the manufacture of safer handguns and by closing the loopholes that allow young people easy access to handguns.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROWN v. BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the landmark 1954 civil rights decision of Brown v. Board of Education. In its decision, the Supreme Court held that the Equal Protection Clause of the fourteenth amendment prohibits States from maintaining racially segregated public schools.

In Brown, the Court upheld the principle that America is a land of laws, not men.

In Brown, the Court affirmed that equality, fairness, and justice are for all Americans, irrespective of race, ethnicity, color, or creed.

The Supreme Court found that the segregation of white and black children in public schools denied black children the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by the fourteenth amendment.

The Court reached this decision even if the physical facilities and other ''tangible'' factors of white and black schools were equal.

Of course, we all know that the facilities and resources were far from being equal.

It took courage on the part of the nine Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court to reverse the so-called ''separate but equal'' precedent that the Court had created in the 1896 case of Plessy v. Ferguson.

The Plessy decision concerned a 30-year-old shoemaker named Homer Plessy who had been jailed for sitting in the ''White'' car of the East Louisiana Railroad. Plessy was only one-eighth black and seven-eighth white, but under Louisiana law, he was considered black and therefore required to sit in the ''Colored'' car.

In Plessy, the Supreme Court found that laws requiring separate black and white railroad cars did not conflict with the thirteenth amendment which abolished slavery.

The Court held that ''a statute which implies merely a legal distinction between the white and colored races has no tendency to destroy the legal equality of the two races.'' Consequently, the noxious notion of ''separate but equal'' took root in America.

The lone dissenter in the Plessy case, Justice John Harlan, wrote, ''Our Constitution is color-blind, and neither knows nor tolerates classes among citizens. In respect of civil rights, all citizens are equal before the law.'' Justice Harlan was a half-century ahead of his time.

After years of arguing discrimination cases throughout the Nation, a team of NAACP lawyers, led by Thurgood Marshall, brought five case from Kansas, South Carolina, Virginia, Delaware, and Washington DC to the Supreme Court. Thurgood Marshall—one of the giants of American history—stood before the Supreme Court determined to rid this Nation of a ''failure of our constitutional system.''

In Brown, the Court ruled that in the United States and under the U.S. Constitution, ''separate'' is inherently unequal.

These words were profound then and there are equally profound today because when the Supreme Court struck down school legal segregation, it advanced the cause of human rights in America and set an example for all the world.

I just visited the ''Separate and Unequal'' exhibit at the Smithsonian. I was struck by how one of the displays put it: the Brown decision told Americans and the world that ''the American dream of ethnic diversity and racial equality under the law is a dream of justice for all.''

Although the Brown decision declared the system of legal segregation unconstitutional, the Court ordered only that the States end segregation with ''all deliberate speed.'' One dictionary definition of ''deliberate'' is ''leisurely or slow in manner or motion.''

This ambiguity over how to enforce the ruling gave segregationists an opportunity to organize what came to be called ''massive resistance.'' Many State officials in the South responded to the Brown decision by promising to use all legal means and resources under their command to prevent integration.

In Prince Edward County, VA, for example—one of the cases decided in the Brown decision—the school district's response was to close the public schools in Farmville for 5 years, from 1959 to 1964. White students enrolled in private schools while a generation of black children was denied access to education.

Over the 50 years since Brown, this Nation has continued to wrestle with issues of racial and ethnic equality.

As I stand here today to pay homage to the Brown decision and the civil rights struggle, I feel compelled to ask, ''A half-century after Brown, how far have we come? Where we are today, and where are we headed?''

Fifty years after the Brown decision, the struggle for equality has come to include not only racial and ethnic minorities, but also women, the disabled, and gays and lesbians. That is a promising development.

We need only remember that it is only this week when the Massachusetts Supreme Court's order recognizing gay marriages is given the full effect of law.

Since the 1954 Brown decision, we have made progress in the sense that Americans overwhelmingly repudiate discrimination and segregation.

But while we no longer see the blatant vestiges of the segregationist era such as signs saying ''whites only'' or ''colored only,'' our society is still plagued by inequality and injustice.

African Americans have yet to enjoy true racial equality in this Nation. And in the absence of real equality, African Americans are being denied the essence of what it means to be an American.

Statistics are the clearest barometer for measuring our progress and far too many of them reveal that African Americans continue to lag behind whites in important ways.

In April 2004, the Nation's unemployment rate was 4.9 percent for whites; for blacks, it was 9.7 percent.

In 2002, the poverty rate was 12.1 percent nationwide; for blacks, it was 22.7 percent.

In 1999, median income for white families was $51,244; for black families, it was $31,778.

Today, black men make up 41 percent of all prisoners, but only 4 percent of all college and university students.

African Americans are 13 percent of the population in my home State of New Jersey, but they constituted a staggering 63 percent of the State's prison population in 2002.

The murder rate for whites is 3.3 per 100,000 people; for blacks, it's six times as high, 20.5 per 100,000 people.

These statistics make it pretty clear that while we have come a long way from the blatant racism of ''separate but equal'' and the decision to close the Farmville public schools to prevent their integration, we still have a long way to go in making the dream of justice and equality for all Americans a living, breathing reality.

As we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Brown decision, we need to rededicate ourselves to the civil rights struggle. As Teddy Roosevelt said, ''This country will not be a really good place for any of us to live in if it is not a really good place for all of us to live in.''

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr President, 50 years ago, our Nation set out to give every child the chance for excellence and equality in education. In a quote from the Brown decision in 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court said, ''Today education is perhaps the most important function of State and local governments . . . It is a principal instrument in awakening the child to cultural values, in preparing him for later professional training, and in helping him to adjust normally to his environment. In these days, it is doubtful that any child may reasonably be expected to succeed in life if he is denied the opportunity of an education. Such an opportunity, where the State has undertaken to provide it, is a right, which must be made available to all on equal terms.'' We have made great progress in the past 50 years but we still have a long way to go.

By fulfilling the promise of Brown, school systems have the ability to lay a great foundation for our Nation. Providing children with a high quality education, in a diverse classroom setting, gives our children the educational

tools which they need to succeed. Additionally, it provides them with an environment which will equip them with the necessary tools to become true leaders. The goals of Brown were to provide to all children, excellent schools which were as diverse as possible. The greatest gift that we can give our children is to ensure that they receive nothing less.

Fifty years after Brown, its full promise remains unrealized. Public education in our country has become more and more separate. In Washington, DC, public schools, nearly all students are attending segregated, poor schools. For example, 2,455 students are attending 12th grade. Of those, 121 are white, about 1,900 are black and the rest are primarily Latino and Asian/Pacific Islander. Of the white students, 116 attend just three schools with 88 of those at just one school. This scenario is happening not only in our Nation's capital but across the Nation. In my State of Louisiana, public schools in the City of Monroe have 88 percent minority students, while the surrounding rural district has 71 percent white students.

Not only are our schools more separate, but they are also more unequal. Since 1988, the minority achievement gap in our country has continued to grow. Nationally, African American and Latino 17-year-olds demonstrate reading and math skills that are virtually indistinguishable from white 13-year-olds. In my own State of Louisiana, there is a 42.9 point gap between the performance of African American students and their white peers. These statistics can be explained by many different variables. Poor and minority students are one-third more likely to be taught by an unqualified teacher than their peers. Students of color and low-income students do not receive curriculum and instruction that is as challenging or rigorous as other students. According to the U.S. Department of Education, less than a third of students from low-wealth families were enrolled in the college prep track, while two-thirds of students from high-wealth families were in college prep. What is worse, we have put educational funding on its head. In a majority of States, the more students of color you have, the less likely you are to receive State and local funds.

The founding principle of No Child Left Behind was that all children can learn. There are hundreds of examples, many of which you will hear in commemoration of the Brown decision, to demonstrate this fact to be true. Centennial Place Elementary School in Atlanta, GA is 91 percent African American and 79 percent low-income and is in the top 10 percent of the entire State of Georgia in reading. Moreover, Centennial Place Elementary outscored 88 percent of other Georgia schools on the State's math test. In my home State of Louisiana, Claiborne Fundamental Elementary School has an 80 percent minority student body, 60 percent of which are in poverty. Yet they finished in the 94th percentile on LEAP testing and finished in the top 10 percent in closing the achievement gap. These are only a few examples of success in schools which support the principles of No Child Left Behind. For the first time, the Federal Government has rejected the bigotry of lower expectations and has required States and local school districts to do something about the growing gap of opportunity in our schools. If we are to realize the promise of Brown we must ensure that each and every child, regardless of race or income, has an opportunity to realize their potential.

The links between all of these examples of success are accountability, full and equal funding, and teacher quality. If we can set clear, measurable goals for performance and continue to hold schools accountable for results, we can truly measure success and failure. Backlash against No Child Left Behind is in part because people are being forced to face the reality that gaps do exist. Under the old system, schools with huge gaps in the performance of their students were labeled as being successful. Nationally, 4th grade African Americans lag behind their white peers in reading, with 39 percent of white students considered proficient but only 12 percent of black students. Things are similar in 8th grade mathematics, 36 percent of white students are labeled proficient, but only 7 percent of black students fall into the same category.

While we continue to make schools accountable, we must also ensure that they are fully and equally funded. Over the past four years, Title I of No Child Left Behind has been underfunded by the President's Budget by $22.3 billion. In my State of Louisiana, that means that 135, 962 disadvantaged children, 6,029 English-learners, and 62,977 preschool children are left behind. We cannot continue to expect our schools to perform, if we do not give them the tools they need. This funding must also be equal. In 22 States, the highest poverty school districts receive less per-student funding from State and local sources than the lowest-poverty school districts. This is also true of the Nation as a whole. The top 25 percent of school districts in terms of child poverty nationwide receive less funding than the bottom 25 percent. Similarly, in 28 States the local districts with the highest percentage of minority children receive less funding than districts with the fewest minority children.

These increases in funding will go towards many different aspects of our children's education but also towards recruiting the best and the brightest teachers. The difference between an effective teacher and an ineffective teacher can be a whole grade level in school. In a recent study in Dallas, students who had the added value of a good teacher 3 years in a row were scoring in the 76th percentile; while students who had a bad teacher 3 years in a row were performing in the 27th percentile. We can help recruit and retain quality teachers by increasing their opportunity for professional development, increasing the pay for teachers who work in high challenge areas, merit pay and bonuses for good teachers, and by increasing administrative and professional support for teachers in schools.

The principles laid out in No Child Left Behind give our Nation the opportunity to fully realize the promise of Brown v. Board of Education. If we can continue to fund initiatives which encourage accountability and excellence for all students we can continue to close the achievement gap that plagues our Nation's schools. In 1960, four black 6-year-old girls were the first to integrate two white schools in my home town of New Orleans. These brave children set out as pioneers to create a school system in this country which was equal for all children regardless of race or religion. We must keep these children in our hearts as we set forth to make their dream truly a reality. On this 50th commemoration of the Brown decision, I hope that my colleagues will join with me in ensuring that every child receives access to the same high quality education.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

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

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor children across the Nation who live in foster care and the admirable adults who protect and care for them. Currently, there are over half a million children in foster care in the United States—a number that has doubled since 1987. Coming from every socioeconomic background, these innocent children cannot live at home due to troubling family situations. Luckily, 170,000 foster families have opened their hearts and homes to these disadvantaged children.

Children enter foster care for a number of reasons. For some children, the journey begins at birth. Other children come to the attention of child welfare when a teacher, a social worker, a police officer, or a neighbor reports suspected child maltreatment. Often, these children have experienced physical or sexual abuse at the hands of a loved and trusted adult or have been woefully neglected by their caregivers. On average, children stay in foster care for 33 months.

Foster parents meet a special need in our society by ensuring that foster children receive attention, love, and health and educational services. In doing so, they help to restore a sense of hope and stability in the lives of our country's youth.

In my home State of Illinois, we are doing our part to recognize the selfless

contributions made by foster parents. On April 26, Governor Rod Blagojevich proclaimed May 2004 ''Foster Parent Appreciation Month.'' The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services is the Nation's largest child welfare agency accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services.

Illinois DCFS is working to reduce the number of children who require foster care. Through a program called Front End Redesign, early intervention services are provided to families after their needs become apparent to prevent the need for a child to be placed in foster care. For four consecutive years, Illinois has been a national leader in adoptions. With an increasing emphasis on early intervention and adoption, the number of Illinois children in foster care has declined from 51,331 children in 1997 to 19,297 children in 2004.

We still have a great demand—not only in Illinois but in States across the Nation—for additional caring adults to open their homes to foster children. Teenagers, adolescent moms and their babies, children with special needs, and sibling groups are some of the children most in need of foster and adoptive parents.

All children can reach their greatest potential when they live in safe, stable, and nurturing families. Yet far too many children lack this fundamental foundation. Foster parents, as well as the professionals and volunteers working within state child welfare programs, deserve our gratitude and respect for the sacrifices they make every day to ensure that our children—our Nation's future—receive the support they need as they mature into adulthood.●

RECOGNITION OF DR. CHARLES IRVIN HUDSON

● Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, like so many of the people who were fortunate enough to know him, I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of a dear friend and true leader, Dr. Charles Irvin Hudson. Dr. Hudson, known to many affectionately as ''Doc,'' died unexpectedly May 7, 2004, at Our Lady of the Lake Hospital in Baton Rouge, LA, at the age of 72.

Doc Hudson was an educator and community leader in St. Landry Parish for nearly 50 years. He demonstrated his commitment to education by serving as a high school mathematics teacher for 10 years and later as the principal of two elementary schools, for which he received numerous awards and honors.

But Doc Hudson was equally committed to public service, and served his community as an elected official for nearly 30 years. First elected to the Opelousas City Council in 1974, he was to serve for three consecutive 4-year terms before becoming deputy secretary for the Louisiana State Department of Transportation and Development from 1984–88. Doc Hudson was then elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives in 1991 where he served till his passing.

Throughout his remarkable career, Doc worked tirelessly for the people of St. Landry Parish and the State of Louisiana. He fought for both decency and accountability in our schools, worked to improve the quality of life for everyone in District 40, and developed warm, quality relationships with all who met him.

It was my privilege to have worked very closely with Doc on a number of occasions and to benefit from the wisdom of his counsel and the breadth of his understanding. I am honored to have known and learned from a man of such high moral character.

Representative Hudson will be remembered for his nearly 30 years of service in public life and 20 years as an educator, and for the great value he placed on developing relationships with people. He rooted his work in his personal experiences with the people affected by the issues. His dedication to people will stand as a legacy from which future generations will learn.

On behalf of the entire State of Louisiana, I pay tribute to this courageous statesman and convey my most respectful condolences to his family and to all who knew him.●

H–2B VISA CRISIS

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I would like to discuss my disappointment with the failure to address an issue of critical importance to small businesses around the country—the need to consider legislation temporarily raising the cap on the number of H–2B visas for this fiscal year.

As many of my colleagues know after hearing from their constituents, the limit on the number of H–2B visas that could be issued this fiscal year was reached in early March. The H–2B cap was reached less than halfway through the current fiscal year and has caused critical problems around the country. This is especially true for those small businesses that rely on H–2B visas to completely fill their staffing needs over the summer months. A business may apply for a H–2B visa no sooner than 120 days before the individual is needed for employment, and the cap was reached as businesses were applying for their summer positions.

I quickly heard from many Vermont businesses expressing their concerns about not being able to obtain these needed workers, and I was pleased to join Senator KENNEDY in introducing the Save the Summer Act on March 29, 2004. This commonsense approach would raise the cap on H–2B visas for this fiscal year by 40,000. This is a simple, straightforward, easy-to-understand-and-implement solution to this problem. I was pleased that the bill had bipartisan support when it was introduced and I was hopeful that it could be considered and passed quickly in the Senate. Unfortunately, this was not to be the case.

The next day, on March 30, Senator HATCH introduced the Summer Operations and Services Relief and Reform Act that addressed the H–2B cap problem in a different manner. While I felt that this legislation addressed the problem in a less clear, more complicated way, I was very pleased that the Senate Judiciary Committee chairman, Senator HATCH, and the Judiciary Committee's Immigration Subcommittee chairman, Senator CHAMBLISS, recognized that there was a problem that had to be immediately addressed.

In the normal legislative process, the next step should have been for the two sides to sit down and try to work through the differences between the bills and then quickly pass legislation to solve this problem. However, in this case, the Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee were not in agreement on how to address the matter and began to negotiate among themselves. Unfortunately, they chose not to negotiate with the supporters of the Save the Summer Act until they had reached a consensus. Supposedly, more than a month after the bill was introduced, the Republicans finally reached an agreement amongst themselves.

Although the majority reached a consensus, the business community and the Department of Homeland Security raised concerns about the Republican agreement. Thus, the Republicans have gone back to the drawing board and are once again negotiating amongst themselves.

It is now the day before the Senate will take its break for the Memorial Day holiday. Many think of Memorial Day weekend as the unofficial beginning of summer. However, almost 2 months after legislation had been introduced, businesses around the country that were counting on the Congress to solve this problem still do not have an answer. Summer may have begun, but for many businesses, this summer season will not be something to celebrate.

Senator KENNEDY and I introduced a simple, easy solution to this problem on March 29 that would have allowed businesses to obtain the employees they desperately need for the summer, while giving the Congress the opportunity to address the long-term issues with the H2–B program. However, the Republican leadership will not allow the Senate to pass this legislation with an overwhelming vote.

It has been almost 2 months since legislation was introduced, almost 3 months since the problem arose, and the Republicans are still debating the issue internally. The Senate should pass the Save the Summer Act immediately and help our Nation's small businesses.●

HONORING RETIRING TEACHERS

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to honor five outstanding

women who have dedicated themselves to the teaching profession and will soon retire after spending more than 30 years each as educators. Each of these women will end their career at the close of this school year at Elm Elementary School in Burr Ridge, IL, having touched the lives of hundreds of children, parents, and colleagues.

Catherine Nufer has been teaching for 36 years and has been recognized for her achievements in teaching writing and social studies. Her students have consistently excelled in State standardized tests in these areas. Ms. Nufer has taken courses over the years to keep current on new teaching standards, always striving to bring a fresh approach to the classroom.

Virginia Bojan is retiring after 33 years of teaching. She is known for her excellence in teaching language arts and science. To her students and colleagues, Ms. Bojan will be remembered most for her pleasant demeanor and use of humor in classroom lessons. Laughter and joy have been central to her teaching style, which will surelly be missed at Elm Elementary School.

Nancy Taylor has been teaching for 34 years, during which time she led district-wide curriculum development initiatives in the areas of language arts and mathematics. Under her soft-spoken, gentle approach to teaching, hundreds of students have learned and flourished. She will be remembered for always striving to care for and understand each child as an individual.

Beverly Oliveri is retiring after 34 years of teaching. She has demonstrated leadership on curriculum development committees which have advanced the way mathematics is taught in District 181. Ms. Oliveri will be remembered by students and colleagues for her unique practice of utilizing storytelling in her classroom lessons, helping students to grasp new concepts by applying them to humorous real-life situations.

Patricia Trudicks has been teaching at Elm Elementary School throughout all 36 years of her teaching career. She was instrumental in introducing technology as an instructional tool and also played a vital role in developing Elm Elementary's Media Resource Center, which offers students and teachers access to educational enrichment materials. Ms. Trudicks has constructed creative, hands-on displays in the media resource center, leaving the hundreds of students she has served with educational experiences they will never forget.

I am honored to have this opportunity to publicly recognize these five women, who have dedicated their professional lives to educating children. They have made an invaluable impact on the minds and hearts of the hundreds of students they have served, providing their students with a broad base of knowledge that has endured well beyond their elementary school years. These five teachers are fine examples of excellence in education, and I proudly salute them for their dedicated service and wish them well in their retirement.●

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

● Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, there are 542,000 reasons that we should all be involved in recognizing May as National Foster Care Month. These reasons represent the number of children currently in the foster care system, roughly 126,000 of whom are waiting to be adopted. Over 70 percent of these children entered foster care because of abuse or neglect. And, the average length of time that these children stay in foster care is almost 3 years.

For many of these children, the wait for a loving family where they are nurtured, comforted, and protected is endless. Every year, 25,000 children ''age out'' of foster care because they reach adulthood without ever being found a permanent home. These children are more likely to drop out of school and are more likely to be unemployed, welfare dependent, and homeless. In fact, roughly 30 percent of the Nation's homeless are former foster children.

As Senators, we cannot allow over half a million children to continue languishing in the foster care system, vulnerable to facing these negative outcomes. During this National Foster Care Month or at any other appropriate time throughout the year, I ask that you focus attention on the need to find secure and supportive families for these children.

Nurturing and stable environments can allow these children to achieve great success by helping them to overcome the challenges posed by involvement in the foster care system. One such example of the effect that a nurturing and stable environment can have on a foster child exists right in Congress's own backyard—the Mayor of Washington, DC, Anthony Williams. Mayor Williams' mother once told the story that when she visited the orphanage where she first met her son, she was told by the workers that he was not as advanced developmentally and intellectually as he should be for a child his age. These workers even indicated that little Anthony might have to be sent to an institution. And, they were right. His mother sent him off to two of the most prestigious institutions in our country—Yale University for college and Harvard University for law school.

I invite all Members to come to the Senate floor to speak about former foster children such as Mayor Williams, about foster children currently waiting for loving families, or about the significance of foster care in your own life, in your State, or in the life of a child. But, I want to ask more of you than simply sharing these stories. I would like to urge my colleagues to commit their efforts to ensuring that we institute legislative reforms for the child welfare system that will emphasize permanency for foster children, whether that be reunification with families, adoption, or teaching youth skills to be able to live self-sufficiently after emancipation. The time is now for us to reform a foster care system that does not adequately address the needs of our most vulnerable children and families.

One of the areas that will require the greatest reform is the Federal financing structure of child welfare services. Currently, the Federal financing system is structured in a way that provides the greatest financial support for a child by the Federal Government when that child is in the foster care system. In other words, it creates a funding incentive to keep children in foster care, rather than moving them towards re-unification or adoption. We must revise this system so that funding matches the Federal priorities. This means that Government should fund the programs and approaches that are actually working to provide safety and permanency to children. Decisions regarding the placement of a child should not be influenced by the type of placement that would offer the greatest resources for the child, but instead be based on the best interests of the child. Adequate resources should be available for children involved in any area of the child welfare system. Therefore, the money and resources should follow the child, whether that is in foster care, in an adoptive home, or after re-unification with the biological family. The current financing system includes a patchwork of programs, many of which are funded through discretionary spending that is vulnerable to cuts in the appropriations process. Reforms must be instituted that allow the child welfare system to encompass a more comprehensive approach that includes prevention, re-unification services, adequate foster care services, adoption resources, and post-permanency support.

The time has come to fix these problems, to focus on the solutions in order to help our most vulnerable children. The Pew Commission on Children in Foster Care released a report this week that summarizes a 1-year study of the foster care system. This study includes the feedback of advocates, State service providers, lawmakers, judges, and former foster youth around the country. I respectfully ask my colleagues to carefully look at the recommendations of not only the Pew Commission but of the hundreds of other individuals, groups, and States that have studied this system and have provided valuable ideas for reform.

Further, I hope that the leadership in the Finance Committee will hold hearings on the topic of Federal financing of the child welfare system to fully explore the problems in this system and the proposals for reform that will help to resolve these problems. I also ask all Members of Congress to make these reforms a priority during the remainder of this session and during the next session of Congress. I am personally committed to seeing reform done within

this time period. And, I am hopeful that we will soon enact legislation that will help the hundreds of thousands of children in foster care in our country. Let us work together to ensure the success of our future by promoting safety and stability for our children today.●

GIFT OF TIME FOUNDATION

● Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the efforts of an outstanding organization which has dedicated itself to aid in the development of our Nation's children. The Gift of Time Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing community service, academic, and physical fitness programs for children between the ages of four and eighteen.

The mission of the Gift of Time Foundation is: ''To provide children with resources, opportunities and assistance that help them develop high self-esteem, self confidence, socially acceptable value systems, diverse cultural appreciation and family values by providing them with structured environments for membership in mandatory participation in physical fitness, academics, and community service programs. To provide children with personal character development assistance for self expression through structured positive activities alternatives.''

The Gift of Time Foundation was spearheaded by E. Douglas McFarlin. His vision was to build a youth complex in St. Louis that would provide children with the proper direction to meet the challenges of our modern society. Mr. McFarlin has worked closely with business, community, and civic leaders to launch this important project. He is hoping that the St. Louis complex will be the first of many across the country.

Mr. President, organizations such as the Gift of Time Foundation can help a community in building character and values in its children. The efforts of Mr. McFarlin and his organization are to be commended for taking this challenge head on. I ask that you join me in recognizing this fine organization and wishing Mr. McFarlin the very best on his endeavors to bring this program to the children of our nation.●

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS MARTIN

● Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I rise today to salute Mr. Dennis Martin, a native Missourian and retiring Director for the Single Family Housing Division in the St. Louis, MO, HUD/FHA Field Office.

On March 7, 1969, Mr. Martin joined the St. Louis Area Office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, St. Louis, MO, as a Single-family Construction Analyst.

Mr. Martin has been recognized for his outstanding contributions to the housing industry throughout his career by both private industry and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. He has received several awards, including a ''Special Housing Recognition Award'' for his accomplishments in the Housing Industry, the Patriotic Service Award and the Secretary's Award of Excellence.

Dennis and his wife, JoAnn, have two children, Deanna and Christopher. Deanna is a Chiropractic Doctor and is married to Dr. Jeremiah Freedman. Christopher is in law school at the University of Tulsa. Dennis and his wife are active in their church in Dardenne Prairie, MO, and he is active in a number of civic and Masonic organizations. Dennis also achieved the rank of Sergeant while serving in the U.S. Army from 1966 to 1968. His parents are Clarence H. and the late Grace Martin of Dixon, MO.

I commend Dennis for his service to the community over the past 35 years. I am honored to share his accomplishments with my colleagues, and I wish him and JoAnn the best for the future.●

TRIBUTE TO SISTER CLARITA ANNEKEN

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Sister Clarita Anneken of Villa Hills, KY for her 63 years devoted to educating young men and women who attended Villa Madonna Academy.

Everything that we do in the United States Senate is done with the idea in mind that we are making the world a better place for those who come after us. Indeed the entire government is dedicated to ensuring that America will continue to protect the rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness long into the future. However, let me remind the Senate that if the people of America are not educated to appreciate the sanctity of life, the glory of liberty, and the meaningfulness of pursuing happiness, that everything we do here will be wasted. No matter how wise the laws we enact, a people ignorant of these important principles will only resent wise laws, not benefit from them.

It is for this reason that I believe that the work of Sister Clarita is so crucial. Sister Clarita has dedicated her life to the education of America's future. For 63 years Sister Clarita has invested her knowledge, time, effort, patience, and understanding in the young people of Villa Madonna Academy. Her efforts have shaped the understanding of many young people who will be a part of America's future.

I believe that no good deed goes unrewarded. The reward that Sister Clarita will reap, however will be a reward reaped for many years, long after her teaching career is finished. It will be a reward which many Americans will share. It will be the reward of young, educated men and women who will be able to continue the great traditions of this country.

Sister Clarita's dedication to the young is an assurance of the brightness of America's future. And I thank Sister Clarita for this assurance and for the bright future of America.●

WALNUT, IOWA, SAYS THANK YOU TO WORLD WAR II VETERAN

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, the National World War II Memorial will be dedicated here in Washington on the Saturday before Memorial Day. It is a stunningly beautiful monument, located midway between the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument. It is a long-overdue salute, an expression of profound gratitude, to the millions of Americans who served their country with courage, sacrifice, and selflessness in that war.

I would like to share with my Senate colleagues a remarkable story about how the small community of Walnut, IA, has expressed its gratitude to a local veteran of the Second World War, Erwin Arndt.

Mr. Arndt returned from the war to serve his community as an electrician, a volunteer firefighter, a city council member, and commander of the local AMVETS unit. Just about everybody in Walnut knows and respects Mr. Arndt. And there was much concern when he suffered a series of strokes over the past year.

All too typically, a man in Mr. Arndt's condition would have no choice but to become a dependent in a nursing home. But friends and neighbors in Walnut came to his rescue in a truly remarkable and inspiring way. They joined hands to give him the wherewithal and assistance he needed to continue living independently in his apartment.

A local restaurant helped to provide daily meals. Several citizens helped Mr. Arndt to keep his apartment clean and orderly, and take him to medical appointments. Still others organized shifts to keep him company in his apartment. Several especially kind citizens got together to purchase a motorized chair to help Mr. Arndt get around.

It was truly a community effort, an act of collective kindness that I find truly inspiring. Mr. Arndt's daughter, Karen DeWinter, is overwhelmed with gratitude for what the people of Walnut did for her father. She told me that she was especially touched that on her father's birthday, the local AMVET auxiliary held a party at a cafe, where they brought cards from local elementary and preschool children.

I want to acknowledge the people of Walnut, IA, for their extraordinary caring and kindness toward Erwin Arndt. Like millions of Americans of what Tom Brokaw has labeled ''the Greatest Generation,'' Mr. Arndt served our Nation with dedication in both war and peace.

In their own special way, the people of Walnut have said thank you to this veteran and beloved member of the community. I would like to add my own gratitude, not just to Mr. Arndt but also to the good citizens of Walnut.●

THE OPENING OF A NEW HATFIELD-McCOY TRAIL HONORING THE FOUNDER, LEFF MOORE

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, monumental achievements are the work of visionary people. On the celebratory occasion marking the opening of a new 100-mile section of the Hatfield-McCoy recreational trail in Wyoming County, it is important to take the time to honor the visionary behind this monumental accomplishment, the late O.L. ''Leff'' Moore. Leff Moore was one of the wisest men I have ever had the great pleasure of knowing, and I consider it an honor to call him my dear friend. I had a habit of calling him ''Uncle Leff''. He just had that affect on people. He had this unique way of encouraging and inspiring people to come together and do great work for their communities. It was rare to hear a negative word from Leff. He was an optimistic who truly thought ahead of his time.

Leff was a driving force in the West Virginia Democratic Party, a life-long civil servant, and a tireless advocate for the safe operation of recreational vehicles. A deep love for the Mountain State ran through everything Leff did in his life, and his commitment to public service was evidenced by the numerous boards and committees he served on. His vision and leadership were widely respected in Putnam County, and his efforts contributed greatly to the area's growth and success. In recognition for his work, Leff was the only two-time recipient of the respected Putnam County Chamber of Commerce Mayo Lester Award.

Born in 1943, the son of Orville L. Moore, Sr. and Margaret Peyton Moore, Leff graduated Winfield High School and West Virginia State College. He served as the executive director of the West Virginia Manufactured Housing Association for more than 30 years where he helped write the policies and set the laws that will govern safe housing practices in West Virginia for future generations.

When his beloved Putnam County started growing rapidly in the 1970's, Leff's vision and determination led to the establishment of Putnam General Hospital, and planning measures brought public water and sewer to aid in the county's growth.

Leff's most stunning success, though, may be the Hatfield-McCoy Regional Recreation Authority trail system in southern West Virginia, which is breathing to new life into an entire region's economy. Over a decade ago when many of us had no idea what ATV's were, Leff somehow knew how popular they would become and saw the potential of marrying ATV's to West Virginia's scenic beauty. With little more than a VHS tape of a Utah trail and his gift for articulating ideas in a way that excited people, he sold even the most skeptical on the benefits of a recreational trail that will eventually reach into Kentucky and Virginia.

Southern West Virginia has already begun to feel the impact of Leff's vision for the trail as more and more out-of-State tourist dollars flow into the mountains of Mingo, Logan and Boone counties. During the last fiscal year, trail riders bought nearly $400,000 in trail permits, and this year, the Regional Recreation Authority expects that number to rise 25 to 31 percent. The average visitor who comes to take advantage of the Hatfield-McCoy trails spends between $250 and $500 during a 3-day stay.

Even at a conservative estimate, that translates into nearly $1 million tourist dollars injected into the local economy every month. These visitors to Southern West Virginia stay in local hotels and eat at local restaurants, many of which have sprung up to feed the growing tourist trade.

Leff's plan to stimulate the Southern West Virginia economy and showcase the beauty of the Mountain State has certainly been a resounding triumph thus far, and the potential for further expansion is limitless. The addition of this new section of trail brings the total system up to 500 miles across 4 different counties. I look forward to the day when Leff's original vision of over 2,000 miles of trails over all of Appalachia becomes a reality.

Soon, I will participate in the grand opening of the Wyoming County section of the Trail, and I am very happy about what it will mean for the area. I am also proud of all the Wyoming County officials who worked so hard to make the Trail a reality, but there will be a deep sadness in my heart as I miss my friend Leff Moore. I am comforted, however, because I know that his passion and vision for the people of West Virginia will guarantee that he is never forgotten in the hearts of many communities. I know that as his vision continues to expand into a reality, the legacy of Leff Moore will live on for a long time in many positive ways for West Virginia.•

TRIBUTE TO LTG JAMES E. SHERRARD

• Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional officer in the United States Air Force and a good friend, LTG James E. Sherrard III, upon his retirement after more than 38 years of distinguished service. Throughout his career, General Sherrard has personified the Air Force core values of integrity, selfless service, and excellence across the many missions the Air Force provides in defense of our Nation. As Chief of Air Force Reserve, many of us on Capitol Hill have enjoyed the opportunity to work with General Sherrard on a wide variety of Air Force issue and programs and it is my privilege to recognize his many accomplishments. I commend his superb service to the United States Air Force and this great Nation.

General Sherrard is a native of Tutwiler, MS, and graduated from the University of Mississippi's Reserve Officer Training Corps program in 1965. His career has spanned a variety of operational assignments and major command staff functions. The general has commanded the 910th Airlift Wing at Youngstown, OH; the 433rd Airlift Wing at San Antonio, TX; the 4th Air Force, March Air Reserve Base, CA; and 22nd Air Force, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, GA. Currently, General Sherrard serves as both the Chief of Air Force Reserve and Commander, Air Force Reserve Command. He is a command pilot with more than 5,000 hours in the T–41, T–37, T–38, C–130A/B/E/H, AC–130A, C–141B, and C–5A/B. In 1996, he received special recognition from the Air Force enlisted force with the presentation of the Order of the Sword.

General Sherrard's exceptional leadership skills have been evident to both supervisors and subordinates throughout his career as he repeatedly led and inspired those around him. He was the Chief of Air Force Reserve during the most demanding period in history for the Reserve Components. Under his tenure, the Air Force Reserve successfully experienced the largest mobilization since the Korean War. Cumulatively, more than 28,000 members of the command have been activated since September 11, 2001, with 5,300 members still on orders in support of the Global War on Terror, OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, OPERATION NOBLE EAGLE and OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM.

During his term as the Chief of Air Force Reserve, General Sherrard has always maintained a ''People First'' philosophy. He has called on each member of his team to advance legislative strategies, readiness, and quality of life issues that are absolutely essential to maintaining both active and reserve components of our all volunteer force. The results of his efforts include a Montgomery GI Bill Kicker for the Selected Reserve and extension of eligibility from 10 to 14 years; command responsibility pay; hostile fire and imminent danger pays for Reservists on inactive duty; expanded TRICARE benefits; lodging reimbursements during leave; and commissary privileges for all reservists. General Sherrard has been the driving force on every major Air Force Reserve issue from rebalancing the force structure between the Reserve and Active components to updating Cold War era laws to more effectively employ Reserve members.

On behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank General Sherrard, his wife Marsha, and their entire family for the commitment, sacrifices, and contribution that they have made throughout his honorable military career. Congratulations on completing an exceptional and extremely successful career.•

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:19 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Chiapparti, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in

which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4200. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, for other purposes.

H.R. 4359. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the child tax credit.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2092. An act to address the participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 4279. To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the disposition of unused health benefits in cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements, to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system, and to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to improve access and choice for entrepreneurs with small businesses with respect to medical care for their employees.

S. 2451. A bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to restore the application date for country of origin labeling.

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 4200. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2005, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The following enrolled bills, previously signed by the Speaker, were signed on today, May 21, 2004, by the acting President pro tempore (Mr. CHAFEE).

H.R. 408. An act to provide for expansion of Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.

H.R. 708. An act to require the conveyance of certain National Forest System lands in Mendocino National Forest, California, to provide for the use of the proceeds from such conveyance for National Forest purposes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 856. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to revise a repayment contract with the Tom Green County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1, San Angelo project, Texas, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1598. An act to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in projects within the San Diego Creek Watershed, California, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MCCAIN, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments:

S. 2273. A bill to provide increased rail transportation security (Rept. No. 108–278).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. CLINTON, and Mr. REED):

S. 2473. A bill to require payment of appropriated funds that are illegally disbursed for political purposes by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ALLARD (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 2474. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow penalty-free withdrawals from retirement plans during the period that a military reservist or national guardsman is called to active duty for an extended period, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 2475. A bill to require enhanced disclosure to consumers regarding the consequences of making only minimum required payments in the repayment of credit card debt; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. KYL (for himself, Mr. MILLER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. INHOFE , and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 2476. A bill to amend the USA PATRIOT Act to repeal the sunsets; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KENNEDY , and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 2477. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to expand college access and increase college persistence, to simplify the process of applying for student assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 2478. A bill for the relief of Mohamad Derani, Maha Felo Derani, and Tarek Derani; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 2479. A bill to amend chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for Federal employees to make elections to make, modify, and terminate contributions to the Thrift Savings Fund at any time, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 2480. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to research and prevent drug impaired driving; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. HAGEL):

S. Con. Res. 112. A concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Purple Heart Recognition Day; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Con. Res. 113. A concurrent resolution recognizing the importance of early diagnosis, proper treatment, and enhanced public awareness of Tourette Syndrome and supporting the goals and ideals of National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 13

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 13, a bill to provide financial security to family farm and small business owners by ending the unfair practice of taxing someone at death.

S. 333

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 333, a bill to promote elder justice, and for other purposes.

S. 491

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to expand research regarding inflammatory bowel disease, and for other purposes.

S. 875

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 875, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an income tax credit for the provision of homeownership and community development, and for other purposes.

S. 989

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 989, a bill to provide death and disability benefits for aerial firefighters who work on a contract basis for a public agency and suffer death or disability in the line of duty, and for other purposes.

S. 1142

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1142, a bill to provide disadvantaged children with access to dental services.

S. 1381

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1381, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify certain provisions relating to the treatment of forestry activities.

S. 1411

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1411, a bill to establish a

National Housing Trust Fund in the Treasury of the United States to provide for the development of decent, safe, and affordable housing for low-income families, and for other purposes.

S. 1491

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1491, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand workplace health incentives by equalizing the tax consequences of employee athletic facility use.

At the request of Mr. DAYTON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1491, supra.

S. 1703

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. TALENT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1703, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit against income tax for expenditures for the maintenance of railroad tracks of Class II and Class III railroads.

S. 1762

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1762, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five-month waiting period in the disability insurance program, and for other purposes.

S. 2104

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2104, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2 West Main Street in Batavia, New York, as the ''Barber Conable Post Office Building''.

S. 2154

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2154, a bill to establish a National sex offender registration database, and for other purposes.

S. 2260

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2260, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for fairness in the calculation of medicare disproportionate share hospital payments for hospitals in Puerto Rico.

S. 2265

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2265, a bill to require group and individual health plans to provide coverage for colorectal cancer screenings.

S. 2336

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2336, a bill to expand access to preventive health care services and education programs that help reduce unintended pregnancy, reduce infection with sexually transmitted disease, and reduce the number of abortions.

S. 2353

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2353, a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.

S. 2363

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2363, a bill to revise and extend the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

S. 2373

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2373, a bill to modify the prohibition on recognition by United States courts of certain rights relating to certain marks, trade names, or commercial names.

S. 2413

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2413, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the automatic enrollment of medicaid beneficiaries for prescription drug benefits under part D of such title, and for other purposes.

S. 2426

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2426, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify the treatment of payment under the medicare program for clinical laboratory tests furnished by critical access hospitals.

S. 2451

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2451, a bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to restore the application date for country of origin labeling.

S. 2463

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2463, a bill to terminate the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

S. 2471

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2471, a bill to regulate the transmission of personally identifiable information to foreign affiliates and subcontractors.

S. CON. RES. 74

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 74, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that a postage stamp should be issued as a testimonial to the Nation's tireless commitment to reuniting America's missing children with their families, and to honor the memories of those children who were victims of abduction and murder.

AMENDMENT NO. 3171

At the request of Mr. WARNER, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3171 proposed to S. 2400, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3234

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3234 intended to be proposed to S. 2400, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. CLINTON, and Mr. REED):

S. 2473. A bill to require payment of appropriated funds that are illegally disbursed for political purposes by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. president, yesterday, the Comptroller General of the United States ruled that the Bush administration illegally spent taxpayer dollars for political propaganda in violation of two laws.

To make matters worse, these funds were taken from the Medicare Trust Fund.

In other words, money reserved for our seniors' healthcare was illegally used for political activity. It is outrageous.

The President has raised plenty of money for his campaign. Over 200 million dollars. Why does he need to use Medicare funds?

With taxpayer money, the Bush administration produced so-called ''video news released'' —fake news stories that hailed the new Medicare law—and distributed them to TV stations across the country.

This covert propaganda was never identified as being produced by the administration. As a result many news stations ran this story as real news and

viewers had no idea it was produced by the government.

The phony news stories show scenes of the President receiving a standing ovation before signing the bill into law and even end with a sign off from a fake reporter.

The GAO has said that these materials are illegal, but the money is already spent and that money will likely never be recovered unless we pass this legislation.

My bill calls on the Bush-Cheney reelection campaign to repay this money to the Federal Government. It's the right thing to do.

I have long said that this administration's so-called ''education'' campaign on the new Medicare law is fraught with questionable activity.

And now we know that they have in fact acted illegally. I think somewhere along the way they confused the word ''education'' with ''election.''

This is just the most recent incident in a long line of advertising by the Bush administration that the non-partisan GAO has called misleading and political.

If the Bush-Cheney campaign wants to spend funds dollars touting the new Medicare law, that's their prerogative—but they cannot use government agencies and taxpayer funds to do it.

I am all for educating seniors, but I will always guard against any misuse of taxpayer dollars, especially those reserved for Medicare.

I am here today to tell the President: Don't use the people's money to promote your bid for reelection. It's not only unethical, it's against the law. Taxpayer money should not be used for political purposes.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill and the GAO report be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2473

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 ''Medicare Trust Fund Reimbursement Act of 2004''.

SEC. 2. REPAYMENT TO THE MEDICARE TRUST FUNDS OF AMOUNTS ILLEGALLY DISBURSED FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if the Comptroller General of the United States determines that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has violated the restriction on using appropriated funds for publicity or propaganda purposes contained in section 626 of division J of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (Public Law 108–7; 117 Stat. 470) or any other provision of law, the principal campaign committee (as defined in section 301(5) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431(5))) of the President of the United States shall reimburse the Federal Government for the amount used in committing such violation.

(b) REIMBURSEMENT OF MEDICARE TRUST FUNDS.—To the extent that the amount described in subsection (a) was initially appropriated to the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund under section 1817 of the Social Security Act or the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund under section 1841 of such Act, the amount reimbursed under such subsection shall be credited to the Trust Fund to which the amount was initially appropriated.

COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES, UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE,
Washington, DC.

DECISION

Matter of: Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services—Video News Releases.

File: B–302710.
Date: May 19, 2004.

DIGEST

1. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services's (CMS) use of appropriated funds to pay for the production and distribution of story packages that were not attributed to CMS violated the restriction on using appropriated funds for publicity or propaganda purposes in the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution of 2003, Pub. L. No. 108–7, Div. J, Tit. VI, §626, 117 Stat. 11, 470 (2003).

2. CMS, in using appropriations in violation of the publicity or propaganda prohibition, incurred obligations in excess of appropriations available for that purpose. See B–300325, Dec. 13, 2002. Accordingly, CMS violated the Antideficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. §1341, and must report the violation to the Congress and President in accordance with 31 U.S.C. §1351 and Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A–11.

DECISION

In a March 10, 2004, opinion, we concluded that the Department of Health and Human Services's (HHS) use of appropriated funds to produce and distribute a flyer and print and television advertisements, as part of a campaign to inform Medicare beneficiaries about changes to Medicare under the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA), did not violate publicity or propaganda prohibitions in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004, Pub. L. No. 108–199, Div. F, Tit. VI, §624, 118 Stat. 3, 356 (2004), and the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution of 2003, Pub. L. No. 108–7, Div. J, Tit. VI, §626, 117 Stat. 11, 470 (2003). B–302504, Mar. 10, 2004. During our development of that opinion, we learned that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency in the Department of Health and Human Services, had prepared as part of this campaign video news releases or VNRs, including a news story for television broadcast, to provide information to the television medium. Letter from Dennis G. Smith, Director, Center for Medicaid and State Operations, to Gary L. Kepplinger, Deputy General Counsel, General Accounting Office (GAO), April 2, 2004 (Smith Letter). The VNRs consist of (1) video clips known as B-roll film, (2) introductory and concluding slates with facts about MMA, and (3) prepackaged news reports referred to as story packages with suggested lead-in anchor scripts. Importantly, the prepackaged story packages and anchor scripts did not include statements noting that they had been prepared by CMS.

Our March 10, 2004, opinion addressed only the flyer and advertisements and did not address CMS's use of appropriated funds to prepare and distribute the VNRs. This decision addresses whether CMS's use of appropriated funds to produce and distribute the VNRs violated the publicity or propaganda prohibitions enacted in the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution of 2003, cited above. CMS told us that it used fiscal year 2003 CMS program management appropriations to produce and distribute the VNRs. Smith Letter, Enclosure 1 at 8. As we explain below, we conclude that of the three parts of the VNRs, one part—the story packages with suggested scripts—violates the prohibition. In neither the story packages nor the lead-in anchor scripts did HHS or CMS identify itself to the television viewing audience as the source of the news reports. Further, in each news report, the content was attributed to an individual purporting to be a reporter but actually hired by an HHS subcontractor.

To perform our analysis, we requested information from CMS regarding the production, filming and distribution of the VNR materials. Letter from Gary L. Kepplinger, Deputy General Counsel, GAO, to Dennis G. Smith, Acting Administrator, CMS, March 17, 2004. CMS responded by letter dated April 2, 2004. Smith Letter. We met with agency officials to clarify their responses and to gain further factual information regarding the production and distribution of the VNRs at issue. In addition to the information CMS provided us, we also examined available information regarding the use of VNRs generally by the broadcast media and their current use as a public relations tool.

BACKGROUND

Use of VNRs

VNRs have become a popular public relations tool to disseminate desired information from private corporations, nonprofit organizations and government entities, in part because they provide a cheaper alternative to more traditional broadcast advertising.[1] While the practice is widespread and widely known by those in the media industry, the quality and content of materials considered to constitute a VNR can vary greatly.[2] Generally, a VNR package may contain a prepackaged news story, referred to as a story package, accompanied by a suggested script, video clips known as B-roll film, and various other promotional materials.[3] These materials are produced in the same manner in which television news organizations produce materials for their own news segments.[4] By eliminating the production effort and costs of news organizations, producers of VNRs find news organizations willing to broadcast a favorable news segment on the desired topic.[5]

Since 1990, there has been a notable rise in the distribution of VNR materials.[6] With growing use of VNRs, journalism scholars began questioning the effect of this third-party material upon the perception that news was derived from a neutral source.[7] In particular, scholars raised concerns regarding the influence of third-party sources.[8]

Given these ethical concerns, there have been a number of studies of the use of VNRs by the broadcast industry. Several journalism scholars attribute the rise in the use of VNRs to the economic circumstances of the industry.[9] In smaller broadcast markets during the early 1990s, news stations suffered significant reductions in staff and budget, and had difficulty obtaining footage of certain public interest events.[10] Footage from an outside source helped stations fill airtime with programming that would otherwise not be available and helped avoid depletion of already overextended funds.[11]

Studies also show, however, that most news organizations using VNR materials often use only a portion or edited versions of the materials provided.[12] Still, parties interested in obtaining the maximum audience for VNR materials argue that, even if the story package or scripted materials are not used in full, the production of a professionally complete news story provides a framework for the message conveyed in the

See footnotes at end of article.

final broadcast.[13] This allows the story package producer to assert some control over the message conveyed to the target audience.

Also, the use of VNRs may be attributed to the ease with which the materials may be distributed. While some packages are distributed directly from the source to the television stations, satellite and electronic news services such as provided by CNN Newsource facilitate distribution to a number of news markets in a short period of time.[14] Broadcast stations subscribe to these services, which provide, in addition to VNR materials, journalist reports and stories, and advertising.[15] While the news services label VNRs differently than independent journalist news reports, there apparently is no industry standard as to the labeling of VNRs. In fact, when questioned about the use of the VNR materials at issue here, some news organizations indicated that they misread the label or they mistook the story package as an independent journalist news story on CNN Newsource.[16]

Professional journalism societies have noted in their codes of ethics that journalists should resist influence from outside sources, including advertisers and special interest groups.[17] Because VNRs consist of information generated by a group with a distinct perspective on an issue, the unfettered use of VNRs may run afoul of these principles.[18] Moreover, professional organizations warn against using materials that would deceive audiences.[19] VNRs that disclose the source of information to the target audience alleviate these ethical concerns.

CMS's Medicare VNRs

The CMS VNRs consist of three videotapes with corresponding scripts. CMS informed us that these videotapes represent what a news organization would receive when obtaining the VNR materials. Two of the videotapes are in English, and one is in Spanish. The two English videotapes contain three items: (1) video clips, referred to as B-roll, (2) slates containing, among other things, title cards with facts on MMA, and (3) a video segment called a ''story package.''[20] The B-roll provides news organizations with footage for use in developing their own news reports. The slate is a visual feed from CMS to recipient news organizations that contains some facts regarding MMA.[21] The last slate in the VNR materials directs the receiving news station to contact CMS for information on the VNR materials. The story packages are news reports prepared by CMS rather than a news organization.

The B-roll clips on each videotape are exactly the same and contain footage of President Bush, in the presence of Members of Congress and others, signing MMA into law, and a series of clips of seniors engaged in various leisure and health-related activities, including consulting with a pharmacist and being screened for blood pressure. The English videotapes also include clips of Tommy Thompson, the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and Leslie Norwalk, Acting Deputy Administrator of CMS, making statements regarding changes to Medicare under MMA. The Spanish videotape includes clips of Dr. Cristina Beato of CMS offering statements about MMA's changes to Medicare, instead of Thompson and Norwalk.

The two English VNRs contain segments entitled ''story packages'' that consist of self-contained news reports regarding Medicare benefits under MMA. Although the English story packages contain several of the same B-roll video clips and the same narrator, identified as Karen Ryan, the contents of the two story packages vary. With each story package, CMS included a script for a news anchor of the recipient news organization to read as a lead-in to the CMS produced news report. One story package focuses on CMS's advertising campaign regarding MMA (Story Package 1). The suggested anchor lead-in states that ''the Federal Government is launching a new, nationwide campaign to educate 41 million people with Medicare about improvements to Medicare.'' The lead-in ends with ''Karen Ryan explains.'' The video portion of the story package begins with an excerpt of the television advertisement with audio indicating ''it's the same Medicare you've always counted on plus more benefits.'' Karen Ryan explains, ''That's the main message Medicare's advertising campaign drives home about the law.'' As more clips from the advertisement appear, Karen Ryan continues her narration, indicating that the campaign helps beneficiaries answer their questions about the new law, the administration is emphasizing that seniors can keep their Medicare the same, and the campaign is part of a larger effort to educate people with Medicare about the new law. The story package ends with Karen Ryan stating: ''In Washington, I'm Karen Ryan reporting.''

The second English story package (Story Package 2) focuses on various provisions of the new prescription drug benefit of MMA and does not mention the advertising campaign of CMS. The anchor lead-in states: ''In December, President Bush signed into law the first ever prescription drug benefit for people with Medicare.'' The anchor lead-in then notes, ''[t]here have been a lot of questions about'' MMA and its changes to Medicare and ''Karen Ryan helps sort through the details.'' The video portion of the news report starts with footage of President Bush signing MMA. Karen Ryan's voice narration indicates that when MMA was ''signed into law last month, millions of people who are covered by Medicare began asking how it will help them.'' Next, the segment runs footage of Tommy Thompson, in which he states that ''it will be the same Medicare system but with new benefits. . . .'' Karen Ryan continues her narration, stating ''most of the attention has focused on the new prescription drug benefit . . . all people with Medicare will be able to get coverage that will lower their prescription drug spending . . . Medicare will offer some immediate help through a discount card.'' She also tells viewers that new preventive benefits will be available, low-income individuals may qualify for a $600 credit on available drug discount cards, and ''Medicare officials emphasize that no one will be forced to sign up for any of the new benefits.'' Karen Ryan's narration leads into clips of Secretary Thompson and Leslie Norwalk explaining other beneficial provisions of MMA. Similar to Story Package 1, Story Package 2 ends with ''In Washington, I'm Karen Ryan reporting.''

The Spanish-language materials contain the same three items as the English language VNRs-a B-roll, slates and a story package (Story Package 3). After the B-roll segments, the story package segment appears. This segment is considerably longer than its two English counterparts. Similar to Story Package 2, Story Package 3 focuses on prescription drug benefits available under MMA. It does not mention that CMS is engaging in an advertising campaign. Here, the anchor lead-in is similar to Story Package 2, except the anchor indicates that Alberto Garcia ''helps sort through the details.'' The video segment begins with the footage of President Bush signing MMA into law as Alberto Garcia narrates that after signing the law, millions of people who are covered by Medicare began asking how the new law will help them. The remainder of the story package contains identical footage of Dr. Beato and of seniors engaged in various activities as in the B-roll footage. During the video clips of seniors, Alberto Garcia narrates that the focus of most of the attention to MMA is on the prescription drug benefit available in 2006. He also explains that prescription drug discount cards will be available in June 2004 and that ''[p]eople with Medicare may be able to choose from several different drug discount cards, offering up to 25 percent savings on certain medications.''[22] Alberto Garcia concludes his report, stating: ''In Washington, I'm Alberto Garcia reporting.''

In response to our request for more factual information on CMS's practice of using VNRs, CMS forwarded to us a fourth videotape. This tape contains Story Package 2 and two VNRs, each of which CMS described as a ''produced story segment,'' that HHS produced and distributed in 1999 under then-Secretary Donna Shalala of the Clinton Administration. Smith Letter at 2. These two story packages were designed to inform beneficiaries of the Clinton Administration's position on prescription drug benefits and preventive health benefits. CMS pointed out similarities between the story packages in current use and the earlier ones. Much like the story packages at issue here, the earlier story packages contain footage of seniors engaging in various activities, then-HHS Secretary Donna Shalala appearing to answer questions regarding the provisions of proposed legislation for a prescription drug benefits and preventive health benefits, and a report of the Administration's proposal. The earlier story packages end with the phrase, ''Lovell Brigham, reporting.''

Distribution of Medicare VNRs

CMS explained to us that HHS hired Ketchum, Inc., to disseminate information regarding the changes to Medicare under MMA. Specifically, HHS contracted with Ketchum to assist HHS and its agencies with a ''full range of social marketing activities to plan, develop, produce, and deliver consumer-based communication programs, strategies, and materials.'' Ketchum Contract at 2. Ketchum hired Home Front Communications (HFC) to create the VNR materials. HFC is a broadcast public relations firm specializing in producing video products. Smith Letter, Enclosure 1 at 6–7. HFC wrote the VNR scripts, which were reviewed, edited, and approved by CMS and HHS. Id. at 7. HFC completed all production work, including filming, audio work and editing. The final VNR packages were reviewed and approved by CMS and HHS. Id.

The VNR materials were then distributed to television stations via satellite, electronic services provided by CNN Newsource, and/or mail. Id. at 2. CMS and HFC staff members contacted some news directors by telephone to inform the stations that the materials were available. Id. Additionally, CMS e-mailed and faxed news advisories to news stations regarding the VNR availability. Id.; see also Smith Letter, Enclosure 4. The advisory indicated the satellite coordinates to obtain the materials, how to find the materials on CNN Newsource, and bullet-point key facts regarding the new benefits available. Smith Letter, Enclosure 4. The advisory further explains what the visual elements of the VNR consisted of, including interviews, a story package, and B-roll. Id. All stations could access satellite distribution. Smith Letter, Enclosure 1 at 6. Computers of the subscribing location stations' newsrooms could access CNN Newsource. Id. The advisory directed news stations to contact Robin Lane, an HFC employee, for more information on retrieving VNR materials. CMS also mailed videotapes of VNR materials to those television stations that requested the material. Smith Letter, Enclosure 4. CMS provided us a list of television

stations that aired at least some portion of the VNRs between January 22, 2004, and February 12, 2004. This list contained 40 stations in 33 different markets. Smith Letter, Enclosure 3. CMS did not identify what parts of the VNR each station broadcasted. One of the stations that aired the story package was WBRZ, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. According to transcripts published on the World Wide Web, WBRZ broadcast Story Package 2 and used the suggested anchor lead-in script on January 22, 2004, in its entirety.[23] At least two other television stations may have aired either Story Package 1 or 2 in their entirety. A review of excerpts of transcripts from Video Monitoring Services of America show that two stations, WMBC–TV in New Jersey (Story Package 1) and WAGA–TV in Atlanta (Story Package 2), aired MMA news stories ending with Karen Ryan's by-line.[24]

DISCUSSION

This is the first occasion that we have had to review the use of appropriated funds by government entities to engage in the production of VNRs. At issue here is whether CMS's use of appropriated funds to produce VNR materials constituted a proper use of those funds. In its written response and during our informal interview, CMS contended that the production of the VNR materials constitutes a ''standard practice in the news sector'' and a ''well-established and well-understood use of a common news and public affairs practice.'' Smith Letter at 2. While we recognize that the use of VNR materials, with already prepared story packages, is a common practice in the public relations industry and utilized not only by government entities but also the private and non-profit sector as well, our analysis of the proper use of appropriated funds is not based upon the norms in the public relations and media industry.

CMS told us that it used fiscal year 2003 CMS program management appropriations to produce and distribute the VNR package. Smith Letter, Enclosure 1 at 8. While CMS may have authority to use appropriated funds to disseminate information regarding the changes to Medicare pursuant to MMA,[25] this authority is subject to the publicity or propaganda prohibition appearing in the annual appropriation act.[26] Specifically, this prohibition states: ''No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes within the United States not heretofore authorized by the Congress.'' Pub. L. No. 108–7, Div. J, Tit. VI, §626, 117 Stat. 11, 470 (2003).

Our March 10, 2004, opinion noted that to date we have applied the publicity or propaganda restriction to prohibit the use of appropriated funds for materials that are self-aggrandizing, purely partisan in nature, or covert as to source. See generally B–302504. Of these three types, the VNR materials on MMA raise concerns as to whether they constitute ''covert'' propaganda because they are misleading as to source.[27]

CMS asserts that, in keeping with the traditional practices in the media industry, CMS or the service it used to distribute the VNR materials clearly labeled the materials as VNRs. See generally Smith Letter. Because they are so labeled and easily identifiable among those in the media, CMS contends that the story packages could not be considered misleading as to source. CMS officials also assert that it was not their intent to distribute the VNR materials to the broadcast stations covertly and that the labeling of the entire VNR package clearly attributes the source of the information to HHS and CMS. Smith Letter, Enclosure 1 at 4.

The ''critical element of covert propaganda is the concealment of the agency's role in sponsoring the materials.'' B–229257, June 10, 1988. In our case law, findings of propaganda are predicated upon the fact that the target audience could not ascertain the information source. For example, we found government-prepared editorials to be covert propaganda; although the newspapers who would have printed the suggested editorials should have been aware of the source, the reading public would not have been aware of the source. B–223098, Oct. 10, 1986. In that case, we examined materials concerning President Reagan's proposal to transfer the Small Business Administration (SBA) to the Department of Commerce. Id. In support of the Administration's proposal, SBA prepared and distributed a variety of materials, including suggested editorials. SBA prepared these editorials and provided them to newspapers around the country to run as the position of the recipient newspapers without disclosing to the readers of those editorials that SBA was the source of the information. Because the SBA-prepared editorials did not identify SBA as the source, SBA's use of appropriated funds to prepare and distribute the editorials violated the publicity or propaganda prohibition.[28]

In a 1987 case, the Department of State's Office of Public Diplomacy for Latin America violated the prohibition by paying consultants to write op-ed pieces in support of the Administration's policy on Central America for distribution to newspapers. B–229069, Sept. 30, 1987. The State Department did not advise the newspapers of its involvement in the writing of the op-ed pieces. The newspapers published these articles for distribution to an equally uninformed audience of individual readers. These materials were ''propaganda'' within the ''common understanding'' of the term, and they constituted ''deceptive covert propaganda'' designed to influence the media and public to support the Administration's Latin American policies. Id.

In defending its VNRs, CMS fails to distinguish among the three separate parts of its VNRs and the intended audience for each part. We do not dispute the fact that CMS labeled the entire package of VNR materials so that the receiving news organizations could identify HHS or CMS as the source of the information, whether they were received directly from CMS through the mail or retrieved by the news organizations from CNN Newsource or other satellite services.[29] However, in both B–223098 and B–229069, the readers of the printed editorials and op-ed pieces would not have been aware of the government's influence. In analyzing whether the three separate materials that make up the VNR package are covert propaganda, we do not consider the VNR as a whole, because each of the three items that comprise the VNR was prepared for a different purpose and audience.

In its written response and during our interviews, CMS indicated that the 41 million Medicare beneficiaries, who may comprise the news stations' viewing audience, and not just the television stations themselves, were the intended audience of the VNR materials. Some VNR materials, including the B-roll and the slates, could not reasonably be targeted directly to a television viewing audience. By their very nature, the B-roll and slates were designed to be incorporated in a news story of the receiving stations' own creation. CMS clearly identified itself as the source of these materials to the television stations receiving them. CMS made efforts to notify the news stations of the availability of these materials via e-mail, telephone, and facsimile and the available distribution sources identified the materials as a VNR. Smith Letter at 2, Enclosure 1 at 2. Accordingly, the B-roll and slates do not violate the publicity or propaganda prohibition.

The story packages and lead-in scripts, however, were clearly designed to be seen and heard directly by the television viewing audience and not solely by the media receiving the package. CMS and HHS officials told us that the story packages were designed so that television stations could include them in their news broadcasts exactly as CMS had produced them, without any production effort by the stations. The suggested anchor lead-in scripts facilitate the unaltered use of the story package, announcing the package as a news story by Karen Ryan or Alberto Garcia. Importantly, CMS included no statement or other reference in either the story package or the anchor lead-in script to ensure that the viewing audience would be aware that CMS is the source of the purported news story.

The story packages, similar to the SBA editorials and the State Department op-ed pieces, could be reproduced with no alteration thereby allowing the targeted audience to believe that the information came from a nongovernment source or neutral party. The story packages of the VNRs consist of a complete message that could be reproduced directly by the news organizations to be viewed by the audience of the newscasts. As such, the viewing audience does not know, for example, that Karen Ryan and Alberto Garcia were paid with HHS funds for their work.

The receiving news organization's ability to edit the story packages to produce an independent news story does not negate the fact that CMS designed the segments to broadcast as CMS had produced them. CMS's effort to identify itself to the news organizations that received the VNRs did not alert television viewers that CMS was the source of the story package. CMS has acknowledged that the television viewer was the targeted audience. Because CMS did not identify itself as the source of the news report, the story packages, including the lead-in script, violate the publicity or propaganda prohibition.[30]

In a modest but meaningful way, the publicity or propaganda restriction helps to mark the boundary between an agency making information available to the public and agencies creating news reports unbeknownst to the receiving audience. It is not the only marker Congress has placed in statute between the government and the American press, however. Consistent with the restrictions on publicity or propaganda ''within the United States,''[31] Congress has prohibited the U.S. Information Agency and its succeeding agency, Board of Broadcasting Governors, created by Congress for the purpose of producing pro-U.S. government news reports and print materials for international audiences, 22 U.S.C. §1461, from broadcasting to domestic audiences, 22 U.S.C. §§1461(b), 1461–1a.[32] In limiting domestic dissemination of the U.S. government-produced news reports, Congress was reflecting concern that the availability of government news broadcasts may infringe upon the traditional freedom of the press and attempt to control public opinion. See B–118654–O.M., Feb. 12, 1979. Congress also restricted government-produced programming for domestic audiences in the law creating the Public Broadcasting Corporation. 47 U.S.C. §396. Although the mission of the Public Broadcasting Corporation includes instructional, educational and cultural purposes, the statute creating the Corporation prohibits the Corporation from directly producing any news programming. 47 U.S.C. §396(g)(3)(A) & (B).[33] While Congress authorized HHS to conduct a wide-range of informational activities, CMS was given no authority to produce and disseminate unattributed news stories.

CMS makes two other arguments in support of its use of appropriated funds to produce and distribute the story packages. Neither argument is persuasive. CMS argues that the VNR materials cannot be covert propaganda because the VNR materials were not produced as a ''purported editorial, advocacy piece or commentary.'' Smith Letter, Enclosure 1 at 4. CMS asserts that the narration by Karen Ryan (and presumably Alberto Garcia) does not take a position on the MMA. Id. While we agree that the story packages may not be characterized as editorials, explicit advocacy is not necessary to find a violation of the prohibition.[34] As with the SBA-suggested editorials, the content of the story packages themselves would not violate the publicity or propaganda prohibition if identifying the source to the target audience were not an issue. See B–302504, Mar. 10, 2004.

Further, CMS refers to our recent opinion in B–301022, Mar. 10, 2004, regarding the Office of National Drug Control Policy's (ONDCP) open letter to state-level prosecutors opposing efforts to legalize marijuana and other controlled substances.[35] Smith Letter, Enclosure 1 at 3. The open letter contained two attachments, one of which did not identify ONDCP as the source of the information. B–301022, Mar. 10, 2004. We found that the unidentified attachment was not a violation of the publicity or propaganda prohibition because the document was part of a package that clearly identified ONDCP as the source and because there was no attempt to portray the contents of the document as the position of an individual outside the agency. Id.

This reasoning cannot be applied to the story packages at issue here. The target audience of the ONDCP letter and attachments, the state prosecutors, had access to the entire package. The television viewing audiences, however, could not view the entire MMA VNR package. Evidence shows, and CMS acknowledges, that the story package could be broadcast without edit or alteration, and actually was broadcasted unedited in some markets. Television audiences viewing the story packages were not in a position to determine the source from the other materials in the VNR packages. Unlike the ONDCP materials, the content of the message expressed in the story packages was attributed to alleged reporters, Karen Ryan and Alberto Garcia, and not to HHS or CMS. Nothing in the story packages permit the viewer to know that Karen Ryan and Alberto Garcia were paid with federal funds through a contractor to report the message in the story packages. The entire story package was developed with appropriated funds but appears to be an independent news story. The failure to identify HHS or CMS as the source within the story package is not remedied by the fact that the other materials in the VNR package identify HHS and CMS as the source of the materials or that the content of the story package did not attempt to attribute the agency's position to an individual outside the agency.[36]

HHS's misuse of appropriated funds in violation of the publicity or propaganda prohibition also constitutes a violation of the Antideficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. §1341(a). The Antideficiency Act prohibits making or authorizing an expenditure or obligation that exceeds available budget authority. See B–300325, Dec. 13, 2002. Because CMS has no appropriation available for the production and distribution of materials that violate the publicity or propaganda prohibition, CMS has violated the Antideficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. §1341(a). See B–300325, Dec. 13, 2002. CMS must report its Antideficiency Act violation to the President and the Congress. 31 U.S.C. §1351.[37] Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A–11 provides guidance to executive agencies on information to include in Antideficiency Act reports.

CONCLUSION

Although the VNR materials were labeled so that the television news stations could identify CMS as the source of the materials, part of the VNR materials—the story packages and lead-in anchor scripts—were targeted not only to the television news stations but also to the television viewing audience. Neither the story packages nor scripts identified HHS or CMS as the source to the targeted television audience, and the content of the news reports was attributed to individuals purporting to be reporters, but actually hired by an HHS subcontractor. For these reasons, the use of appropriated funds for production and distribution of the story packages and suggested scripts violated the publicity or propaganda prohibition of the Consolidated Appropriation Resolution of 2003, Pub. L. No. 108–7, Div. J, Tit. VI, §626, 117 Stat. 11, 470 (2003). Moreover, because CMS had no appropriation available to produce and distribute materials in violation of the publicity or propaganda prohibition, CMS violated the Antideficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. §1341. CMS must report the Antideficiency Act violation to the Congress and the President. 31 U.S.C. §1351.

ANTHONY H. GAMBOA,
General Counsel.

FOOTNOTES

[1] Eugene Marlowe, Sophisticated ''News'' Videos Gain Wide Acceptance, Pub. Rel. J. 17 (Aug./Sept. 1994).

[2] In 1991, it was reported that 78 percent of news directors polled used edited VNRs at least once a week in their broadcasts. Bob Sonenclar, The VNR Top Ten: How Much Video PR Gets On the Evening News?, Col. J. Rev. 14 (Mar. 1, 1991). In 1992, another source reported that 100 percent of polled stations admitted to using some VNR materials in their newscasts. Anne R. Owen and James A. Karrh, Video News Releases: Effects on Viewer Recall and Attitudes, 22 Pub. Rel. Rev. 369 (Winter 1996). In 2001, it was reported that approximately 800 television stations in the United States use VNRs. Mark D. Harmon and Candace White, How Television News Programs Use Video News Releases, 27 Pub. Rel. Rev. 213 (June 22, 2001).

[3] Marlowe, supra note 1, at 17.

[4] Id.

[5] Glen T. Cameron and David Blount, VNRs and Air Checks: A Content Analysis of the Use of Video News Releases in Television Newscasts, 73 Journalism and Mass Comm. Q. 890, 891 (Winter 1996) (summarizes the logistic and resource constraints of the media industry attributed to the media's decision to utilize VNR material).

[6] Sonenclar, supra note 2, noting the anticipated rise in the use of VNRs. Harmon and White, supra note 2, noting the new importance of using VNRs in the media industry in the late 1980s and into the 1990s.

[7] See generally Harmon and White, supra note 2, summarizing the various studies in the 1990s regarding the ethics of using VNRs in the journalism industry.

[8] Id.; see also Owen and Karrh, note 2, examining the credibility of news programming using messages derived from VNRs.

[9] Marlowe, supra note 1, at 17. See also Cameron and Blount, supra note 5, at 893.

[10] Owen and Karrh, supra note 2. Cameron and Blount, supra note 5, at 893.

[11] Cameron and Blount, supra note 5, at 893.

[12] Id. This study showed that most news stations, regardless of size of the market, did not use the prepackaged news stories on a wide scale basis. The study noted that, while most stations used part of the VNRs, very few stations used the prepackaged story with no alteration.

[13] Id. at 901.

[14] Harmon and White, supra note 2.

[15] Zachary Roth, Fact Check, CNN: Spinning PR into News, CJR Campaign Desk, Mar. 22, 2004, available at http://www.campaigndesk.org/archives/000318.asp.

[16] Id. The article also notes that most news directors that ran the VNRs at issue here expressed displeasure with the Administration, and some thought the distribution of the VNR took ''advantage of the smaller stations' well-known lack of resources.''

[17] See Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct Radio—Television News Directors Association (RTNDA), available at http://www.rtnda.org/ethics/coe.html; see also Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) Code of Ethics, available at http://www.spi.org/ethics code-asp.

[18] SPJ Code of Ethics states: ''Deny favored treatment to advertisers and special interests and resist their pressure to influence news coverage.'' SPJ Code of Ethics, supra note 17. RTNDA Code of Ethics states: ''Gather and report news without fear or favor, and vigorously resist undue influence from any outside forces, including advertisers, sources, story subjects, powerful individuals, and special interest groups.'' Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct RTNDA, supra note 17.

[19] RTNDA Code of Ethics states: ''Clearly disclose the origin of information and label all material provided by outsiders.'' (Emphasis added.) SPJ Code of Ethics states: ''Identify sources whenever feasible. The public is entitled to as much information as possible on sources' reliability.''

[20] In addition to these materials, one of the English-language videos contains footage of an advertisement that appeared on national television. Our legal opinion of March 10, 2004, B–302504, reviewed this material, and found that HHS's use of appropriated funds for the advertisement did not violate the publicity or propaganda prohibition.

[21] In addition to the title cards, the slates contain the visual feeds of the B-roll and the story packages. Each slate may be separated and edited for individual use by the receiving television station. For example, the receiving station could separate the slate with the B-roll footage of seniors engaged in health-related activities from the other B-roll footage and the story packages. The station could then use this slate separately from the remaining VNR materials.

[22] In Story Package 2, Leslie Norwalk, in one of her ''interview'' video clips, not Karen Ryan, the reporter, made this point.

[23] The transcript, available http://www.2theadvocate.com/scripts/012304/noon.htm, was accessed on April 7, 2004.

[24] The partial transcripts indicate the time each news item was broadcast, the topic discussed, some information on visual clips, and the reporter on the assignment. For example, the partial transcript for the WAGA-TV transcript indicated that the story ran for 1 minute and 22 seconds, contained video clips from the television campaign advertisements and a pharmacy checkout, an interview with Tommy Thompson, and Karen Ryan reporting from Washington. See Video Monitoring Services of America, Good Day Atlanta, February 4, 2004, available at www.nexis.com.

[25] See generally, MMA §101(a) (adding new sections to the Social Security Act and expanding HHS's authority to engage in information dissemination activities to inform Medicare beneficiaries about their benefits).

[26] We need not speculate, and this decision does not address, what type of authorization an agency must have, and how specific that authority would have to be, to prepare and distribute a ''news story'' absent a prohibition on publicity or propaganda.

[27] We did not criticize the flyer and advertisements under consideration in our March 10, 2004, opinion as covert propaganda because all of the materials identified HHS or CMS as the source to every audience viewing the material.

[28] We compared SBA's editorials to lobbying campaigns, attempting to manipulate the perception that public support for an issue was greater than it actually was. Id.; see also B–129874, Sept. 11, 1978 (criticizing a plan to distribute ''canned editorial materials'').

[29] Some news organizations reported that the use of such information was a mistake due to their own misreading of the label on the materials received or some confusion as to the labeling by CNN Newsource. Later reports indicate that CNN Newsource has changed its cataloguing and labeling of VNRs in response to these reports. See Zachary Roth, Fact Check: CNN Cracks Down—on CNN, CJR Campaign Desk, Mar. 31, 2004, available at http://www.campaigndesk.org/archives/000358.asp.

[30] As we noted in the background section of this decision, CMS forwarded to us a videotape including what CMS described as two story packages that HHS had produced and distributed during the Clinton Administration in October 1999. These two story packages were not brought to our attention at that time. Had we been aware of the use of story packages in this or other contexts, the principles discussed here would have been applicable. We note, however, that accounts of the government are settled by operation of law three years after the close of the fiscal year. 31 U.S.C. §3526(c).

[31] The prohibition restricts publicity or propaganda ''within the United States.'' The Consolidated Appropriations Resolution of 2003, Pub. L. No. 108–7, Div. J, Tit. VI, §626, 117 Stat. 11, 470 (2003).

[32] There are some limited exceptions in which Broadcasting Board of Governors and United States Information Agency materials could be viewed by a domestic audience. 22 U.S.C. §1461(b). None of these exceptions are relevant here.

[33] The Administration and Congress have significant control over the Public Broadcasting Corporation (PBC). The President appoints and the Senate confirms the nine members of the Board of Directors. 47 U.S.C. §396(c)(2). PBC is required to report annually to Congress regarding its operations, activities, financial condition and accomplishments. 47 U.S.C. §396(i).

[34] Although the story package content may not contain strong editorial positions on the benefits of MMA, they are not strictly factual news stories as HHS contends. On balance, the contents of the story packages consist of a favorable report on effects on Medicare beneficiaries, containing the same notable omissions and weaknesses as the flyer and advertisements that we reviewed in our March 2004 opinion.

[35] The National District Attorneys Association sent the open letter and attachments with its own cover letter to the state-level prosecutors.

[38] CMS also argues that VNRs are similar to press releases as ''[e]ach is designed to provide information to reporters and is crafted for the use by the media to which it is directed. Each provides quotes, facts and background that a reporter can use to write or produce a story. Each is created to provide context to the issue.'' Smith Letter at 1. There may, indeed, be similarities between these two public relations tools. We are familiar with the practice of preparing press releases to include information useful to reporters who then prepare and produce their own news stories for publication. With the story packages, CMS prepared news stories using alleged reporters rather than simply offering information to reporters who would prepare their own stories.

[37] We were unable to identify the amount of HHS's violation. HHS advised that the English language story packages cost $33,250, and that the Spanish language VNR cost $9,500. Smith Letter, Enclosure 1 at 8. Although requested, HHS did not provide further documentation of these costs to us. We did not audit these amounts.

By Mr. ALLARD (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 2474. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow penalty-free withdrawals from retirement plans during the period that a military reservist or national guardsman is called to active duty for an extended period, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Guardsmen and Reservists Financial Relief Act of 2004. National guardsmen and reservists are serving our country with virtue and valor in the war on terror. These brave men and women deserve recognition for the many sacrifices they make in serving and protecting this great country. Their families also deserve protection from potential financial hardships experienced at home that may result from the guardsmen or reservists being called to service.

Since September 11, 2004, many men and women have left their jobs in the private sector to fill vitally needed positions for our national defense. In playing the role of true citizen soldiers, some have taken drastic pay cuts from their civilian jobs in order to fulfill their duty to their country. This is beginning to create financial strains on their families.

The Department of Defense estimates that 3 percent of its reservists have been called up more than once since September 11, 2001. Additionally, the GAO reports that nearly 41 percent of reservists are impacted by a pay discrepancy between his or her military and civilian salary.

The Guardsmen and Reservists Financial Relief Act of 2004 will see that the families and loved ones of Guard members and reservists, who are called to service after September 11, 2001, can access retirement funds without incurring any penalties.

This important legislation will allow Guard members and reservists who are activated for more than 179 days to make penalty-free early withdrawals from their IRA or 401(k) plan.

This bill retroactively covers members of the Guard and Reserve who were called to service beginning on September 11, 2001, and extends coverage to those who may continue to be called on to serve on an active basis through September 12, 2005.

Furthermore, this bill will encourage repayment of any withdrawal from an IRA or 401(k) fund within 2 years of a guardsman or reservist ending their active duty, ensuring retirement, financial security for soldiers and their families.

It also temporarily lifts the contribution cap to equal the amount of the withdrawn funds to allow for full repayment.

National Guard members and military reservists have been imperative to the military strength of our Nation over the years. Today, almost half of our military strength is from those who serve in the National Guard and military Reserve. There are currently 169,000 National Guard members and military reservists on active duty helping fight the war on terror.

Since September 11, 2001, 373,707 total National Guard members and military reservists have been mobilized. There is no doubt we owe a great deal to our men and women in uniform who are so honorably serving their country by fighting the war on terror. Helping to ease the financial burdens of families of Guard members and reservists is a good start.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate on the Guardsmen and Reservists Financial Relief of 2004 to provide members of our National Guard and military Reserve with the financial relief they deserve for loyally serving and protecting this country.

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. 2474

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 ''Guardsmen and Reservists Financial Relief Act of 2004''.

SEC. 2. PENALTY-FREE WITHDRAWALS FROM RETIREMENT PLANS FOR INDIVIDUALS CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY FOR AT LEAST 179 DAYS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 72(t) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to 10-percent additional tax on early distributions from qualified retirement plans) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(G) DISTRIBUTIONS FROM RETIREMENT PLANS TO INDIVIDUALS CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Any qualified reservist distribution.

''(ii) AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED MAY BE REPAID.—Any individual who receives a qualified reservist distribution may, at any time during the 2-year period beginning on the day after the end of the active duty period, make one or more contributions to an individual retirement plan of such individual in an aggregate amount not to exceed the amount of such distribution. The dollar limitations otherwise applicable to contributions to individual retirement plans shall not apply to any contribution made pursuant to the preceding sentence. No deduction shall be allowed for any contribution pursuant to this clause.

''(iii) QUALIFIED RESERVIST DISTRIBUTION.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term 'qualified reservist distribution' means any distribution to an individual if—

''(I) such distribution is from an individual retirement plan, or from amounts attributable to employer contributions made pursuant to elective deferrals described in subparagraph (A) or (C) of section 402(g)(3) or section 501(c)(18)(D)(iii),

''(II) such individual was (by reason of being a member of a reserve component (as defined in section 101 of title 37, United States Code)), ordered or called to active duty for a period in excess of 179 days or for an indefinite period, and

''(III) such distribution is made during the period beginning on the date of such order or call and ending at the close of the active duty period.

''(iv) APPLICATION OF SUBPARAGRAPH.—This subparagraph applies to individuals ordered or called to active duty after September 11, 2001, and before September 12, 2005. In no event shall the 2-year period referred to in clause (ii) end before the date which is 2 years after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 401(k)(2)(B)(i) of such Code is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subclause (III), by striking ''and'' at the end of subclause (IV) and inserting ''or'', and by inserting after subclause (IV) the following new subclause:

''(V) the date on which a period referred to in section 72(t)(2)(G)(iii)(III) begins, and''.

(2) Section 403(b)(11) of such Code is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting '', or'', and by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

''(C) for distributions to which section 72(t)(2)(G) applies.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to distributions after September 11, 2001.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 2475. A bill to require enhanced disclosure to consumers regarding the consequences of making only minimum required payments in the repayment of credit card debt; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Credit Card Minimum Payment Warning Act. I greatly appreciate the significant contributions Senator DURBIN made to this

bill, and I thank him very much for that. Also, I thank Senator LEAHY and Senator SCHUMER for cosponsoring this legislation.

Americans are carrying enormous amounts of debt. In 2003, consumer debt increased for the first time to more than $2 trillion, according to the Federal Reserve. This is a 28-percent increase since the year 2000. According to the Daily Bankruptcy News, consumer debt is now equal to 110 percent of disposable income. Ten years ago, it was 85 percent; and 20 years ago, it was 65 percent. A key component of household debt can be attributed to the use of credit cards. Revolving debt, mostly comprised of credit card debt, has more than doubled from $313 billion in January 1994 to $753 billion in debt in January 2004. A U.S. Public Interest Research Group and Consumer Federation of America analysis of Federal Reserve data indicates that the average household with debt carries approximately $10,000 to $12,000 in total revolving debt and has nine credit cards.

More and more working families are trying to meet growing financial obligations and are having difficulties surviving financially. When interest rates do eventually rise, consumers' increasing debt obligations will be compounded further.

As household debt has increased, bankruptcy filings have surged to record levels. In the year 2003, more than 1.6 million consumers filed for bankruptcy. This staggering amount is an increase of 5.6 percent over the previous record set in 2002. Bankruptcies disrupt the lives of consumers and limit their ability to access credit in the future. In addition, bankruptcies lead to significant financial losses for creditors. It is imperative that we make consumers more aware of the long-term effects of their financial decisions, particularly in managing their credit card debt, so that they can avoid bankruptcy.

Even as we contemplate the consequences of more and more debt, it has become easier to access credit. Preapproved credit card offers are now a routine piece of mail. Students are offered credit cards at earlier ages, especially in view of the success that credit card companies are having with their aggressive campaigns targeted towards college students. Mr. President, 55 percent of college students acquire their first credit card during their first year in college, and 83 percent of college students have at least one credit card. Forty-five percent of college students are in credit card debt, with the average debt being over $3,000.

While it is relatively easy to obtain credit, not enough is done to ensure that credit is properly managed. Currently, credit card statements fail to include all of the information necessary to allow individuals to make fully informed financial decisions. Additional disclosure is needed to ensure that individuals completely understand the implications of their credit card use.

Our legislation will provide a wakeup call for consumers. It will make it very clear what costs consumers will incur if they make only the minimum payments on their credit cards. The personalized information they will receive for each of their accounts will help them to make informed choices about the payments that they choose to make towards their balance.

This bill requires a minimum payment warning notification on monthly statements stating that making the minimum payment will increase the amount of interest that will be paid and extend the amount of time it will take to repay the outstanding balance. Consumers would have to be informed of how many years and months it will take to repay their entire balance if they make only the minimum payments. In addition, the total costs in interest and principal, if the consumer pays only the minimum payment, would have to be disclosed. These provisions will make individuals much more aware of the true costs of their credit card debts.

The bill also requires that credit card companies provide useful information so that people can develop strategies to free themselves of credit card debt. Consumers would have to be provided with the amount they need to pay to eliminate their outstanding balance within 36 months. Finally, the legislation would require that creditors establish a toll-free number so that consumers can access trustworthy credit counselors. In order to ensure that consumers are referred from the toll-free number to only trustworthy organizations, the agencies for referral would have to be approved by the Federal Trade Commission and the Federal Reserve Board as having met comprehensive quality standards. These standards are necessary because certain credit counseling agencies have abused their nonprofit, tax-exempt status and have taken advantage of people seeking assistance in managing their debts. People believe, sometimes mistakenly, that they can place blind trust in nonprofit organizations and that their fees will be lower than those of other credit counseling organizations.

Too many individuals may not realize that the credit counseling industry does deserve the trust that consumers often place in it.

The Credit Card Minimum Payment Warning Act has been endorsed by the Consumer Federation of America, Consumers Union, and U.S. Public Interest Research Group.

I ask unanimous consent that the letter of support and factsheet from these organizations be printed in the RECORD.

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

CONSUMERS UNION, CONSUMER FEDERATION OF AMERICA, U.S. PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP,

May 13, 2004:

DEAR SENATORS AKAKA AND DURBIN The undersigned national consumer organizations write to strongly support the Credit Card Minimum Payment Warning Act. The act would require credit card issuers to disclose more information to consumers about the costs associated with paying their bills at ever-declining minimum payment rates. The Act provides a personalized ''price tag'' so consumers can understand what are the real costs of credit card debt and avoid financial problems in the future.

Undisputed evidence links the rise in bankruptcy in recent years to the increase in consumer credit outstanding. These numbers have moved in lockstep for more than 20 years. Revolving credit, for example (most of which is credit card debt) ballooned from $214 billion in January 1990 to over $750 billion currently. As a family debt increases, debt service payments on items such as interest and late fees take an ever-increasing piece of their budget. For some families, this contributes to the collapse of their budget. Bankruptcy becomes the only way out. (See the attached fact sheet for more information about the scope and impact of credit card debt.)

Credit card issuers have exacerbated the financial problems that many families have faced by lowering minimum payment amounts, from around 4 percent of the balance owed, to about 2 percent currently. This decline in the typical minimum payment is a significant reason for the rise in consumer bankruptcies in recent years. A low minimum payment often barely covers interest obligations. It convinces many borrowers that they are financially sound as long as they can meet all of their minimum payment obligations. However, those that cannot afford to make these payments often carry so much debt that bankruptcy is usually the only viable option.

This bill will provide consumers several crucial pieces of information on their monthly credit card statement:

A ''minimum payment warning'' that paying at the minimum rate will increase the amount of interest that is owed and the time it will take to repay the balance.

The number of years and months that it will take the consumer to pay off the balance at the minimum rate.

The total costs in interest and principal if the consumer pays at the minimum rate.

The monthly payment that would be required to pay the balance off in three years.

The bill also requires that credit card companies provide a toll-free number that consumers can call to receive information about credit counseling and debt management assistance. In order to assure that consumers are referred to honest, legitimate non-profit credit counselors, the bill requires the Federal Reserve to screen these agencies to ensure that they meet rigorous quality standards.

Our groups command you for offering this very important and long-overdue piece of legislation. It provides the kind of personalized, timely disclosure information that will help debt-choked families make informed decisions and start to work their way back to financial health.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS B. PLUNKETT,
Legislative Director, Consumer Federation of America.
ADAM GOLDBERG,
Policy Analyst, Consumers Union.
EDMUND MIERZWINSKI,
Consumer Programs Director, U.S. Public Interest Research Group.

FACTS ABOUT CREDIT CARD DEBT

Revolving debt (most of which is credit card debt) has ballooned from $54 billion in January 1980 to over $750 billion currently.

	In billions
January 1980	54
January 1984	79
January 1990	214
January 1994	313
January 2004	753

Source: http://www.federalreserve.gov/Releases/G19/his/cc his sa.html.

About one-twelfth of this debt is paid off before it incurs interest, so Americans pay interest on an annual load of about $690 billion in revolving debt.

According to the Federal Reserve, the most recent average credit card interest rate is 12.4% APR. At simple interest, with no compounding, then, consumers pay at least $85 billion annually in interest on credit card and other revolving debt.

Just about 55 percent of consumers carry debt. The rest are convenience users.

From PIRG/CFA analysis of Federal Reserve data, the average household with debt carriers approximately $10,000–12,000 in total revolving debt and has approximately nine cards.

FACTS ABOUT THE EFFECT OF MINIMUM MONTHLY PAYMENTS

A household making the monthly minimum required payments on this debt (usually the greater of 2 percent of the unpaid balance or $20) at the very low average 12.4% APR (many consumers pay much higher penalty rates than this FRB-reported average) would pay $1,175 in interest just in the first year, even if these cards are cut up and not used again.

This household would pay a total of over $9,800 in interest over a period of 25 years and three months. That fact is not disclosed.

A household or consumer who merely doubled their minimum payment and paid 4% of the amount due would fare better. A household or consumer that paid 10% of the balance each month would fare much better. Here is comparison.

Minimum Payment Warnings Would Encourage Larger Payments and Save Consumers Thousands of Dollars in High-Priced Credit Card Debt.

Credit Card Debt of $10,000 at Modest 12.4% APR	Monthly Payment (% of unpaid balance)		
	2%	4%	10%
First Year Interest	$1,175	$1,054	$775
Total Interest Owed	$9,834	$3,345	$1,129
Months To Pay Owed	303	127	52
Years to Pay	25.3	10.6	4.3

Calculations by U.S. PIRG. also see http://www.truthaboutcredit.org/lowerapr.htm for additional comparisons and amortization tables

Giving consumers a minimum payment warning on their credit card statements is the most powerful action Congress could take to increase consumer understanding of the cost of credit card debt.

FACTS ABOUT WHO OWES CREDIT CARD DEBT

Credit card debt has risen fastest among lower-income Americans. These families saw the largest increase—a 184 percent rise in their debt—but even very high-income families had 28 percent more credit card debt in 2001 than they did in 1989. Source: Demos

Thirty-nine percent of student loan borrowers now graduate with unmanageable levels of debt, meaning that their monthly payments are more than 8 percent of their monthly incomes. According to PIRG analysis of the 1999–2000 NPSAS data, in 2001, 41 percent of the graduating seniors carried a credit card balance, with an average balance of $3,071. Student loan borrowers were even more likely to carry credit card debt, with 48 percent of borrowers carrying an average credit card balance of $3,176. See ''The Burden of Borrowing,'' 2002, Tracey King, the State PIRGs, *http://www.pirg.org/highered/BurdenofBorrowing.pdf*

While less likely to have credit cards than white families, data show that African-American and Hispanic families are more likely to carry debt.

	% With credit cards 2001	Cardholding % with debt 2001	Average credit card debt 2001
All families	76	55	$4,126
White families	82	51	4,381
Black families	59	84	2,950
Hispanic families	53	75	3,691

Demos calculation using 2001 Survey of Consumer Finance. See Borrowing To Make Ends Meet. Demos, http://www.demos-usa.org/pubs/borrowing__to__make__ends__meet.pdf.

SENIORS (OVER AGE 65)

Credit card debt among older Americans increased by 89 percent from 1992 to 2001. Average balances among indebted adults over 65 increased by 89 percent, to $4,041.

Seniors between 65 and 69 years old, presumably the newly-retired, saw the most staggering rise in credit card debt—217 percent—to an average of $5,844.

Female-headed senior households experienced a 48 percent increase between 1992 and 2001, to an average of $2,319.

Among seniors with incomes under $50,000 (70 percent of seniors), about one in five families with credit card debt is in debt hardship—spending over 40 percent of their income on debt payments, including mortgage debt.

TRANSITIONERS (AGES 55–64)

Transitioners experienced a 47 percent increase in credit card debt between 1992 and 2001, to an average of $4,088.

The average credit card-indebted family in this age group now spends 31 percent of their income on debt payments, a 10 percent increase over the decade.

Source: ''Retiring in the Red: The Growth of Debt Among Older Americans''; *http://www.demos-usa.org/pub101.cfm*.

Other fact sheet sources include ''Deflate Your Rate,'' MASSPIRG, 2002, see *http://www.truthaboutcredit.org* and other reports by Demos. See *http://www.demos-usa.org/page38.cfm*.

Mr. AKAKA. I also ask unanimous consent that the text of the Credit Card Minimum Payment Warning Act be printed in the RECORD following my remarks.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation that will empower consumers by providing them with detailed personalized information to assist them in making informed choices about their credit card use and repayment. This bill makes clear the adverse consequences of uninformed choices, such as making only minimum payments, and provides opportunities to locate assistance to eliminate credit card debt.

S. 2475

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 ''Credit Card Minimum Payment Warning Act''.

SEC. 2. ENHANCED CONSUMER DISCLOSURES REGARDING MINIMUM PAYMENTS.

Section 127(b) of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1637(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(11)(A) Information regarding repayment of the outstanding balance of the consumer under the account, appearing in conspicuous type on the front of the first page of each such billing statement, and accompanied by an appropriate explanation, containing—

''(i) the words 'Minimum Payment Warning: Making only the minimum payment will increase the amount of interest that you pay and the time it will take to repay your outstanding balance.';

''(ii) the number of years and months (rounded to the nearest month) that it would take for the consumer to pay the entire amount of that balance, if the consumer pays only the required minimum monthly payments;

''(iii) the total cost to the consumer, shown as the sum of all principal and interest payments, and a breakdown of the total costs in interest and principal, of paying that balance in full if the consumer pays only the required minimum monthly payments, and if no further advances are made;

''(iv) the monthly payment amount that would be required for the consumer to eliminate the outstanding balance in 36 months if no further advances are made; and

''(v) a toll-free telephone number at which the consumer may receive information about accessing credit counseling and debt management services.

''(B)(i) Subject to clause (ii), in making the disclosures under subparagraph (A) the creditor shall apply the interest rate in effect on the date on which the disclosure is made.

''(ii) If the interest rate in effect on the date on which the disclosure is made is a temporary rate that will change under a contractual provision specifying a subsequent interest rate or applying an index or formula for subsequent interest rate adjustment, the creditor shall apply the interest rate in effect on the date on which the disclosure is made for as long as that interest rate will apply under that contractual provision, and then shall apply the adjusted interest rate, as specified in the contract. If the contract applies a formula that uses an index that varies over time, the value of such index on the date on which the disclosure is made shall be used in the application of the formula.''.

SEC. 3. ACCESS TO CREDIT COUNSELING AND DEBT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION.

(a) GUIDELINES REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Trade Commission (in this section referred to as the ''Board'' and the ''Commission'', respectively) shall jointly, by rule, regulation, or order, issue guidelines for the establishment and maintenance by creditors of a toll-free telephone number for purposes of the disclosures required under section 127(b)(11) of the Truth in Lending Act, as added by this Act.

(2) APPROVED AGENCIES.—Guidelines issued under this subsection shall ensure that referrals provided by the toll-free number include only those agencies approved by the Board and the Commission as meeting the criteria under this section.

(b) CRITERIA.—The Board and the Commission shall only approve a nonprofit budget and credit counseling agency for purposes of this section that—

(1) demonstrates that it will provide qualified counselors, maintain adequate provision

for safekeeping and payment of client funds, provide adequate counseling with respect to client credit problems, and deal responsibly and effectively with other matters relating to the quality, effectiveness, and financial security of the services it provides;

(2) at a minimum—

(A) is registered as a nonprofit entity under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

(B) has a board of directors, the majority of the members of which—

(i) are not employed by such agency; and

(ii) will not directly or indirectly benefit financially from the outcome of the counseling services provided by such agency;

(C) if a fee is charged for counseling services, charges a reasonable and fair fee, and provides services without regard to ability to pay the fee;

(D) provides for safekeeping and payment of client funds, including an annual audit of the trust accounts and appropriate employee bonding;

(E) provides full disclosures to clients, including funding sources, counselor qualifications, possible impact on credit reports, any costs of such program that will be paid by the client, and how such costs will be paid;

(F) provides adequate counseling with respect to the credit problems of the client, including an analysis of the current financial condition of the client, factors that caused such financial condition, and how such client can develop a plan to respond to the problems without incurring negative amortization of debt;

(G) provides trained counselors who—

(i) receive no commissions or bonuses based on the outcome of the counseling services provided;

(ii) have adequate experience; and

(iii) have been adequately trained to provide counseling services to individuals in financial difficulty, including the matters described in subparagraph (F);

(H) demonstrates adequate experience and background in providing credit counseling;

(I) has adequate financial resources to provide continuing support services for budgeting plans over the life of any repayment plan; and

(J) is accredited by an independent, nationally recognized accrediting organization.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I am delighted to be working with my friend the distinguished Senator from Hawaii, Senator AKAKA, to introduce a measure that provides a simple yet vital commodity to users of credit cards. The commodity I speak of: information.

The modern-day credit-reporting system has benefitted consumers by making affordable credit more widely available than ever before, and the spread of credit cards is an important part of this ''credit revolution.'' Along with this revolution in credit availability, however, we need a revolution in consumers' ability to manage their credit. Two facts provide a quick and simple snapshot of our progress in that regard. In the fourth quarter of 2003, the number of delinquencies on regular consumer loans went down. That same quarter, the number of past-due credit card accounts hit an all-time high. Clearly, an increasing number of credit card holders need to do a better job of responsibility managing their credit exposure.

This bill is designed to help them to do just that by providing that vital commodity, information. It would require credit card statements to provide information that will help consumers understand the relationships among their total balance, the minimum payment due, and the accumulation of interest over time. Specifically, this bill would require that statements provide the following information: the amount of time it would take to pay off the total balance if just minimum payments are made each month; the total cost to the consumer that would be incurred over that time period, broken into interest and principle; the payment amount that would be necessary each month to pay off the total balance in three years; and a toll-free telephone number consumers could call to get a referral to a legitimate, accredited, non-profit credit counseling agency.

We would like to think that the credit card companies would be glad to provide whatever information their consumers needed to responsibly manage their credit. The fact of the matter is, though, that they do not provide the information I just described, and chances are they will not begin doing so on their own initiative. These numbers are not all that hard to calculate. A few lines of computer code is all it would take. And yet provision of these three simple numbers would provide a huge payback by helping credit card users quickly and easily get a clearer understanding of the size of their balance and what the consequences will be for them—in terms of time and financial cost—of carrying that balance.

Let me be extra clear about one thing: This bill will help markets for credit work better. As Adam Smith told us, the free flow of information is an absolute prerequisite of an efficient market. For markets to work, buyers must know and understand what they are buying. When our bill becomes law, credit card holders—who are simply buyers of credit in the marketplace—will have a better understanding of what exactly they are buying into, for the long term. The result can only be that the credit markets will better serve us, and that our households and our Nation will be on stronger financial footing.

I thank my friend Senator AKAKA for working with me on this important measure. I am also delighted that my friends Senator SCHUMER AND SENATOR LEAHY have joined us as original cosponsors. I urge the rest of my colleagues to join us by cosponsoring this bill.

By Mr. KYL (for himself, Mr. MILLER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 2476. A bill to amend the USA PATRIOT Act to repeal the sunsets; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill that would repeal §224 of the USA Patriot Act. Section 224 provides that 16 different parts of the Patriot Act ''shall cease to have effect on December 31, 2005.'' The authorities subject to this sunset include some of the most important provisions of the Act. They are sections 201, wiretapping in terrorism cases; 202, wiretapping in computer fraud and abuse felony case; 203(b) sharing wiretap information; 203(d), sharing foreign intelligence information; 204, Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) pen register/trap and trace exceptions; 206, roving FISA wiretaps; 207, duration of FISA surveillance of non-United States persons who are agents of a foreign power; 209, seizure of voice-mail messages pursuant to warrants; 212, emergency disclosure of electronic surveillance; 214, FISA pen register/ trap and trace authority; 215, FISA access to tangible items; 217, interception of computer trespasser communications; 218, purpose for FISA orders; 220, nationwide service of search warrants for electronic evidence; 223, civil liability and discipline for privacy violations; and 225, provider immunity for FISA wiretap assistance.

Rather than praise the Patriot Act myself, I would like to quote others who have done so. First, I would note that the President has called on Congress to renew all parts of the Patriot Act that are scheduled to expire next year. As he has emphasized, ''to abandon the Patriot Act would deprive law enforcement and intelligence officers of needed tools in the war on terror, and demonstrate willful blindness to a continuing threat.''

FBI Director Robert Mueller, in a hearing before the Judiciary Committee yesterday, also voiced strong support for renewing the Patriot Act. As he noted, ''for over two and a half years, the PATRIOT Act has proved extraordinarily beneficial in the war on terrorism and has changed the way the FBI does business. Many of our counterterrorism successes, in fact, are the direct results of provisions included in the Act, a number of which are scheduled to 'sunset' at the end of next year. I strongly believe it is vital to our national security to keep each of these provisions intact.''

Similarly, in an April 14 field hearing before the Judiciary Committee, Deputy Attorney General James Comey stated that the Patriot Act ''has made us immeasurably safer.'' He also responded to the allegation, occasionally made by some critics, that the Patriot Act was passed too quickly. He replied that ''the USA Patriot Act was not rushed, it actually came 10 years too late.''

The importance of the Patriot Act to American security also has drawn the attention of the 9/11 Commission. Former New Jersey Governor Thomas Kean has noted that the Commission has had ''witness after witness tell us that the Patriot Act has been very, very helpful, and if the Patriot Act, or portions of it, had been in place before 9/11, that would have been very helpful.''

This praise has not been limited to the Republicans who have participated in the Commission's proceedings. Former Attorney General Janet Reno, for example, testified before the Commission that ''everything that's been done in the Patriot Act has been helpful.''

Nor is President Bush alone among the major candidates for President this year in hailing the importance of the Patriot Act. Indeed, his principal rival for the office, Senator KERRY, recently claimed that he would go even further than the President. According to an April 25 story in the Los Angeles Times, Senator KERRY's spokesman insists that ''it is the challenger, not the president, who brings the most muscular view of the Patriot Act into the race.'' Senator KERRY's presidential campaign website even includes a ''Plan to Restore American Security,'' which lists as its number-one priority to ''improve intelligence capabilities.'' Senator KERRY states that he ''understands that intelligence information is the key to disrupting and dismantling terrorist organizations and that we need to improve our intelligence capabilities, both domestically and internationally, in order to win the war on global terrorism.''

One reform implemented by the Patriot Act that Attorney General Reno and others have particularly emphasized is its authorization for information sharing. Because this part of the Patriot Act is often praised but infrequently described in detail, I would like to quote the following accounts of pre-Patriot barriers to information sharing, and of the investigative successes that the removal of those barriers has made possible.

The FISA Court of Review decision upholding the Patriot Act's authorization for information sharing, In re: *Sealed Case*, 310 F.3d 717,

F.I.S. CT. REV. 2002, DESCRIBES THE ORIGINS OF THE PRE-PATRIOT BARRIERS:

Apparently to avoid running afoul of the primary purpose test used by some courts, the 1995 [Attorney General] Procedures [(''Procedures for Contacts Between the FBI and the Criminal Division Concerning Foreign Intelligence and Foreign Counterintelligence Investigations'')] limited contacts between the FBI and the Criminal Division in cases where FISA surveillance or searches were being conducted by the FBI for foreign intelligence (FI) or foreign counterintelligence (FCI) purposes. The procedures state that ''the FBI and Criminal Division should ensure that advice intended to preserve the option of a criminal prosecution does not inadvertently result in either the fact or the appearance of the Criminal Division's directing or controlling the FI or FCI investigation toward law enforcement objectives.'' Although these procedures provided for significant information sharing and coordination between criminal and FI or FCI investigations, based at least in part on the ''directing or controlling'' language, they eventually came to be narrowly interpreted within the Department of Justice, and most particularly by OIPR, as requiring OIPR to act as a ''wall'' to prevent the FBI intelligence officials from communicating with the Criminal Division regarding ongoing FI or FCI investigations. Thus, the focus became the nature of the underlying investigation, rather than the general purpose of the surveillance. Once prosecution of the target was being considered, the procedures, as interpreted by OIPR in light of the case law, prevented the Criminal Division from providing any meaningful advice to the FBI.''

In re: *Sealed Case*, 310 F.3d at 727–28 citations omitted.

FBI Director Mueller, in his testimony yesterday, provided a concrete account of the impact that these information-sharing barriers had on intelligence investigations:

Prior to September 11, an [FBI] Agent investigating the intelligence side of a terrorism case was barred from discussing the case with an Agent across the hall who was working the criminal side of that same investigation. For instance, if a court-ordered criminal wiretap turned up intelligence information, the criminal investigator could not share that information with the intelligence investigator—he could not even suggest that the intelligence investigator should seek a wiretap to collect the information for himself. If the criminal investigator served a grand jury subpoena to a suspect's bank, he could not divulge any information found in those bank records to the intelligence investigator. Instead, the intelligence investigator would have to issue a National Security Letter in order to procure that same information.

Chicago U.S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald, in an October 21, 2003 hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee, described how these pre-Patriot information-sharing limits undercut one potentially vital terror investigation. Mr. Fitzgerald discussed the grand-jury testimony of Wadih el Hage, a key member of the Al Qaeda cell in Nairobi who, in September 1997, was apprehended while changing flights in New York City. Federal prosecutors subpoenaed el Hage from the airport to testify before a Federal grand jury in Manhattan. Mr. Fitzgerald described how el Hage:

[P]rovided some information of potential use to the intelligence community—including potential leads as to the location of his confederate Harun and the location of Harun's files in Kenya. Unfortunately, as el Hage left the grand-jury room, we knew that * * * [because of pre-Patriot restrictions] we would not be permitted to share the grand-jury information with the intelligence community. * * * Fortunately, we found a way to address the problem that in most other cases would not work. Upon request, el Hage voluntarily agreed to be debriefed by an FBI agent outside the grand-jury room * * *. El Hage then repeated the essence of what he told the grand jury to the FBI agent, including his purported leads to on the location of Harun and his files. The FBI then lawfully shared the information with the intelligence community. In essence, we solved the problem by obtaining the consent of a since-convicted terrorist. We do not want to have to rely on the consent of al Qaeda terrorists to address the gaps in our national security.

Mr. Fitzgerald went on to describe how, in August 1998, the American Embassy in Nairobi was bombed by al Qaeda. Investigators quickly learned that el Hage's associate Harun was responsible. In this particular case, investigators had been able to work around information-sharing limits because of an al Qaeda terrorist's willingness to be interviewed by the FBI, and even with this information U.S. agents were not able to stop a terrorist attack. The pre-Patriot limits were not a decisive factor in blocking U.S. intelligence agents from preventing the Kenya bombing. But they could have been. As U.S. Attorney Fitzgerald concluded, ''we should not have to wait for people to die with no explanation [other] than that interpretations of the law blocked the sharing of specific information that probably [c]ould have saved [American lives].''

As Attorney General Reno noted in her testimony before the 9/11 Commission, ''these restrictions [on information sharing] have now been eliminated as part of the Patriot Act.'' Director Mueller, in his Judiciary Committee testimony yesterday, described the impact of this change:

The removal of the ''wall'' has allowed government investigators to share information freely. Now, criminal investigative information that contains foreign intelligence or counterintelligence, including grand jury and wiretap information, can be shared with intelligence officials. This increased ability to share information has disrupted terrorist operations in their early stages—such as the successful dismantling of the ''Portland Seven'' terror cell—and has led to numerous arrests, prosecutions, and convictions in terrorism cases.

In essence, prior to September 11th, criminal and intelligence investigators were attempting to put together a complex jigsaw puzzle at separate tables. The Patriot Act has fundamentally changed the way we do business. Today, those investigators sit at the same table and work together on one team. They share leads. They fuse information. Instead of conducting parallel investigations, they are fully integrated into one joint investigation.

These Patriot Act changes can directly be credited with some important recent successes in the war on terror. For example, in February 2003, Federal prosecutors arrested and indicted Sami Al-Arian and seven other suspected terrorists. The 50-count indictment indicated that Al-Arian was the financial director and the North American leader of Palestinian Islamic Jihad, a terrorist group that has killed more than 100 people in and around Israel, including two Americans. Al-Arian wired money to groups in Israel that paid money to the families of terrorists who carried out suicide bombings. He also founded three organizations in Florida which, among other things, drafted final wills and testaments for suicide bombers.

Incredibly, through much of the 1990s, Al-Arian was secretly watched by two different sets of U.S. investigators. The FBI had been conducting a criminal probe of Al-Arian since 1995. Meanwhile, intelligence agents had monitored Al-Arian since the late 1980s. Because of pre-Patriot restrictions, the two sets of investigators were not able to share information and were not aware of the full extent of each other's investigations. It was only after the FISA Court of Review upheld Patriot

Act §203's information-sharing provisions in November 2002 that intelligence officials were able to show their files to prosecutors. Several months after this Patriot provision was upheld and made effective, prosecutors arrested and indicted Al-Arian and put an end to his activities.

Of course, the provisions of the Patriot Act subject to the §224 sunset include much more than just the three provisions that facilitate information sharing. Although I will not discuss all of those provisions in detail today—some of which have never been controversial—I would like to discuss one provision that has been a particular focus of attacks on the Patriot Act.

Section 215 of the Patriot Act allows the FBI to seek an order for ''the production of tangible things (including books, records, papers, documents, and other items) for an investigation to obtain foreign intelligence information.'' FISA defines ''foreign intelligence'' as information relating to foreign espionage, foreign sabotage, or international terrorism, or information respecting a foreign power that relates to U.S. national security or foreign policy. Thus §215 cannot be used to investigate ordinary crimes or even domestic terrorism. And in every case, a §215 order must be approved by a judge.

Alhough §215 is basically a form of subpoena authority, like that allowed for numerous other types of investigation indeed, it is more tightly restricted than other types of subpoenas because it must be pre-approved by a judge §215 has been heavily targeted by Patriot Act critics. Chief among their complaints is that §215 could be used to obtain records from bookstores or libraries. Some of these critics have even alleged that §215 would allow the FBI to investigate someone simply because of the books that he borrows from a library.

Section 215 could in fact be used to obtain library records, though neither §215 nor any other provision of the Patriot Act specifically mentions libraries or is directed at libraries. Nevertheless, §215 does authorize court orders to produce tangible records—which could include library records.

Where the critics are wrong is in suggesting that a §215 order could be obtained because of the books that someone reads or the websites that he visits. §215 allows no such thing. Instead, §215 allows an order to obtain ''tangible things'' as part of an investigation to ''obtain foreign intelligence information''—information relating to foreign espionage or terrorism or relating to a foreign government or group and national security. By requiring a judge to approve such an order, §215 ensures that these orders will not be used for an improper purpose. And as an added protection against abuse, the Patriot Act also requires that the FBI ''fully inform'' the House and Senate Intelligence Committees on all use of §215 every six months. These checks and safeguards leave FBI agents little room for the types of witch hunts that Patriot Act critics conjure up.

Further, it bears mention that federal investigators already use an authority very similar to §215 the grand jury subpoena—to obtain bookstore records. As Deputy AG Comey recently emphasized in a letter that he submitted to the editor of the New York Times, ''orders for records under [§215] are more closely scrutinized and more difficult to obtain than ordinary grand jury supoenas, which can require production of the very same records, but without judicial approval.'' Similarly, in a September 11, 2003 editorial, ''Patriot (Act) Games,'' the Washington Post noted that investigative authority to review library records ''existed prior to the Patriot Act; the law extends it to national security investigations, which isn't unreasonable.''

Finally, I would emphasize that an intelligence or criminal investigation may have good and legitimate reasons for extending to library or bookstore records. For example, in a recent domestic terrorism case, Federal investigators sought to prove that a suspected bomber had built a particularly unusual detonator that had been used in several bombings. The investigators used a grand-jury subpoena to show that the suspect had purchased a book giving instructions on how to build such a detonator.

Moreover, we should not forget that terrorists and spies historically have used libraries to plan and carry out activities that threaten U.S. national security. We know, for example, that some terrorists have used computers at public libraries to use the internet and communicate by email. It would be unwise to place libraries and bookstores beyond the scope of anti-terror investigations.

Andrew McCarthy, a former federal prosecutor who led the 1995 terrorism case against Sheik Omar Abdel Rahman, recently elaborated on this point in a November 13, 2003 article in National Review Online, ''Patriot Act Under Siege'':

> [H]ard experience—won in the course of a string of terrorism trials since 1993—instructs us that it would be folly to preclude the government a priori from access to any broad categories of business record. Reading material, we now know, can be highly relevant in terrorism cases. People who build bombs tend to have books and pamphlets on bomb making. Terrorist leaders often possess literature announcing the animating principles of their organizations in a tone tailored to potential recruits. This type of evidence is a staple of virtually every terrorism investigation—both for what it suggests on its face and for the forensic significance of whose fingerprints may be on it. No one is convicted for having it—jurors are Americans too, and they'd not long stand for the odious notion that one should be imprisoned for the mere act of thinking.
>
> When a defendant pleads ''not guilty,'' however, he is saying: ''I put the government to its proof on every element of the crime, including that I acted with criminal purport.'' Prosecutors must establish beyond a reasonable doubt not only that the terrorist engaged in acts but did so intending execrable consequences. If an accused says the precursor components he covertly amassed were for innocent use, is it not relevant that he has just borrowed a book that covers explosives manufacture? If he claims unfamiliarity with the tenets of violent jihad, should a jury be barred from learning that his paws have yellowed numerous publications on the subject? Such evidence was standard fare throughout Janet Reno's tenure as attorney general—and rightly so.

In his testimony yesterday, FBI Director Mueller also described the importance to antiterror investigations of some of the other Patriot Act authorities subject to expire under §224. For example, Director Mueller noted that:

> The PATRIOT Act gave federal judges the authority to issue search warrants that are valid outside the issuing judge's district in terrorism investigations. In the past, a court could only issue a search warrant for premises within the same judicial district—yet our investigations of terrorist networks often span multiple districts. The PATRIOT Act streamlined this process, making it possible for judges in districts where activities related to terrorism may have occurred to issue search warrants applicable outside their immediate districts.
>
> In addition, the PATRIOT Act permits similar search warrants for electronic evidence such as email. In the past, for example, if an Agent in one district needed to obtain a search warrant for a subject's email account, but the Internet service provider (ISP) was located in another district, he or she would have to contact an AUSA and Agent in the second district, brief them on the details of the investigation, and ask them to appear before a judge to obtain a search warrant—simply because the ISP was physically based in another district. Thanks to the PATRIOT Act, this frustrating and time-consuming process can be averted without reducing judicial oversight. Today, a judge anywhere in the U.S. can issue a search warrant for a subject's email, no matter where the ISP is based.
>
> [Further], the PATRIOT Act updated the law to match current technology, so that we no longer have to fight a 21st-century battle with antiquated weapons. Terrorists exploit modern technology such as the Internet and cell phones to conduct and conceal their activities. The PATRIOT Act leveled the playing field, allowing investigators to adapt to modern techniques. For example, the PATRIOT Act clarified our ability to use court-ordered pen registers and trap-and-trace devices to track Internet communications. The Act also enabled us to seek court-approved roving wiretaps, which allow investigators to conduct electronic surveillance on a particular suspect, not a particular telephone this allows them to continuously monitor subjects without having to return to the court.

All of the authorities described by Director Mueller obviously are critical to antiterrorism investigations—and all will expire next year unless Congress acts to repeal §224.

In responding to some of the accusations of Patriot Act critics, I do not mean to dismiss the importance of either civil liberties or of independent oversight of the federal government. I would simply emphasize that the Patriot Act is carefully crafted legislation that both guarantees protection for civil liberties and is subject to ample oversight. I would note, in this vein, that in a report filed in January

2004, Department of Justice Inspector General Glenn A. Fine—an appointee of President Clinton described the results of his investigation of all recent civil-rights and civil-liberties complaints received by the Justice Department. The Inspector General found no incidents in which the Patriot Act was used to abuse civil rights or civil liberties.

The Patriot Act's provisions for independent oversight of the new authorities created by the Act were described in detail by Deputy AG Comey in his April 14, 2004 testimony before the Judiciary Committee. Mr. Comey noted:

First, the USA PATRIOT Act preserves the historic role of courts by ensuring that the vital role of judicial oversight is not diminished. For example, the provision for delayed notice for search warrants requires judicial approval. In addition, under the Act, investigators cannot obtain a FISA pen register unless they apply for and receive permission from federal court. The USA PATRIOT Act actually goes farther to protect privacy than that Constitution requires, as the Supreme Court has long held that law enforcement authorities are not constitutionally required to obtain court approval before installing a pen register. Furthermore, a court order is required to compel production of business records, in national security investigations.

Second, the USA PATRIOT Act respects important congressional oversight by placing new reporting requirements on the Department. Every six months, the Attorney General is required to report to Congress the number of times section 215 has been utilized, as well as to inform Congress concerning all electronic surveillance under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Under section 1001 of the USA PATRIOT Act, Congress receives a semiannual report from the Department's Inspector General detailing any abuses of civil rights and civil liberties by employees or officials of the Department of Justice. It is important to point out that in the Inspector General's most recent report to Congress, he reported that his office has received no complaints alleging misconduct by Department employees related to the use of a substantive provision of the USA PATRIOT Act.

Finally, the USA PATRIOT Act fosters public oversight of the Department. In addition to the role of the Inspector General to review complaints alleging abuses of civil liberties and civil rights, the Act provides a cause of action for individuals aggrieved by any willful violation of Title III or certain sections of FISA. To date, no civil actions have been filed under this provision.

The United States has had some important successes in the war on terror so far. Worldwide, more than half of al Qaeda's senior leadership has been captured or killed. More than 3,000 al Qaeda operatives have been incapacitated. Within the United States, 4 different terrorist cells have been broken up—cells located in Buffalo, Detroit, Seattle, and Portland. 284 individuals have been criminally charged to date, and 149 individuals have been convicted or pleaded guilty, including: shoe bomber Richard Reid, six members of the Buffalo terrorist cell, two members of the Detroit cell, Ohio truck driver Iyman Faris, and U.S.-born Taliban John Walker Lindh.

Patriot-aided criminal prosecutions also have contributed to U.S. intelligence efforts to learn more about terrorist organizations. Facing long prison terms, some apprehended terrorist have chosen to cooperate with the U.S. government. So far, the Justice Department has obtained plea agreements from 15 individuals who are now cooperating with terror investigations. One individual has given the U.S. information about weapons stored by terrorists in the United States. Another cooperating terrorist has given U.S. investigators information about locations in the U.S. that are being scouted or cased for potential attacks by al Qaeda.

The Patriot Act has played a major role in what U.S. antiterror investigations have accomplished so far. And it is clear that we will continue to need the authorities created by the Patriot Act into the foreseeable future. For these reasons, I am pleased to introduce today with my colleagues a bill to repeal §224 and make the Patriot Act permanent.

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. 2476

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

SECTION 1. REPEAL OF USA PATRIOT ACT SUNSETS.

Section 224 of the USA PATRIOT Act (18 U.S.C. 2510 note) is repealed.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 2477. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to expand college access and increase college persistence, to simplify the process of applying for student assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce bipartisan legislation to expand access to college. I am pleased to be joined in this effort by Senators COLLINS, KENNEDY, and MURRAY.

In a year in which we are slated to reauthorize the Higher Education Act, we have had only a few hearings on the reauthorization in the HELP Committee. In these hearings and the discussions ongoing in the other body, there has been scant mention of our insufficient investment in need-based financial aid. Instead, the discussions have been dominated by proposals that will hurt, rather than help, the neediest students.

This is troubling, particularly as more and more students are being priced out of college, which shortchanges their future and that of our nation. Economic security is a necessity not just for the wealthy, but for every American. And the key to economic security is education.

An individual's climb up the economic ladder is directly related to the amount of education he or she receives. Given the strong correlation among educational attainment, employment, and wages, the cost of not going to college is just too high.

Almost a third of the growth in employment over the next decade is expected to occur in occupations that require at least a bachelor's degree. College graduates, on average, earn 60 percent more than high school graduates, while an individual with a professional degree earns almost four times what a high school graduate earns.

And yet, too many college students are under-prepared, underfinanced, and overworked. Those who make it through are saddled by nearly insurmountable loan debt. But many more cannot afford the cost of college at all.

Even though there have been gains due to the Higher Education Act, the current approach to student aid isn't alleviating the gaps between our lowest and highest income students nor is it addressing the gaps between the aid low-income students receive and the actual cost of attendance.

7 times as many students from high-income families 48 percent graduate from college by age 24 as students from low-income families 7 percent. Low-income, college-qualified high school graduates have an annual ''unmet need'' of nearly $4,000 in college expenses. Without drastic increases in need-based aid, over the next decade, according to a report by the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, 4.4 million low- and moderate-income college qualified high school graduates will not be able to pursue a four year degree full time and 2 million will not go to college at all.

A combination of factors has arisen to create this unfortunate situation, chief among them a decline in the purchasing power of the Pell Grant and sharp increases in the cost of college.

My predecessor, Senator Claiborne Pell, established what is now known as the Pell Grant in order to ensure higher education wasn't an ''unachievable dream.'' Almost one quarter of undergraduate students from colleges and universities nationwide receive a Pell Grant. It is the single largest source of grant aid for higher education funded by the Federal government.

Unfortunately, the Pell Grant's purchasing power has plummeted due to the slow growth in funding and the rapid rise of college prices. In the late 70s, the maximum grant covered 77 percent of costs at a public four-year institution. Today, the maximum Pell Grant of $4,050 covers only 41 percent.

On top of that, an estimated 60 percent of student aid is now in the form of loans and 40 percent in grants, a reversal of the distribution 20 years ago. Indeed, the average graduate has a student loan debt of $17,000. Pell Grant recipients, who represent the lowest income sectors of students, graduate with an average of $20,000 in student loan debt.

Over the last ten years, public and private 4-year college costs, tuition and fees, rose 47 percent and 42 percent, respectively, after adjusting for inflation, which is a more rapid growth rate than consumer prices. Over the last three years, since President Bush entered office, tuition has increased by 28 percent on average, even after inflation. Students have felt the bite as states have drastically cut funding for public colleges.

There is a further convergence of economic and demographic factors. In 2008, the largest number of students in our history will graduate from high school. A high percentage of these students will be from low-income, minority families, who will need student aid. At the same time, our Nation will need replacement workers as aging, college-educated baby boomers begin to retire in increasing numbers.

This crisis calls out for action. It should be a national imperative to ensure an educated citizenry and a world class workforce. Our Nation cannot afford to lose out on the countless returns from a robust education investment.

The legislation we introduce today, the ACCESS, Accessing College through Comprehensive Early outreach, State partnerships, and Simplification, Act, seeks to set our Nation back on the course that Senator Pell sought when he authored the grants later named after him in 1972.

The ACCESS Act revitalizes the Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP) program, which was established over thirty years ago to encourage States to play a role in helping low-income students go to college. Without this important, although extremely modest, Federal incentive, many States would never have established need-based grant programs and many States would not continue to maintain such programs.

Recognizing that LEAP can do even more to address the barriers to college access and persistence, the ACCESS Act forges a new Federal incentive for states—via higher levels of Federal match—to spur greater investments by states, colleges, businesses, and philanthropies in need-based grants for low-income students. At a time when public higher education is bearing the brunt of the fiscal crises confronting our States, we need to do more to encourage States to help low-income students attend college.

We want States to focus their energies on enhancing coordination and cohesion among Federal, State, and local programs and efforts of colleges, philanthropies, and businesses, with the goal of generating new investments in need-based aid sufficient to provide low-income students with an access and persistence grant to fill the gap in aid they face. All too often successful middle school students give up the dream of college because they think there is no way they can ever afford college. The ACCESS Act also requires States to notify low-income students beginning in middle school of their potential eligibility for student financial aid and encourages increased participation in early intervention, mentoring, and outreach programs.

The legislation is modeled after initiatives like the Rhode Island Children's Crusade in my home state and Indiana's 21st Century Scholars Program. A Lumina Foundation evaluation found that 21st Century Scholars—low-income students who receive an early notification of assistance, early intervention and support, and scholarships equivalent to the cost of in-state college tuition—were nearly 5 times more likely than non-participants to enroll in college. Indeed, successful college access programs are those that offer early intervention and mentoring services coupled with early information about estimated financial aid awards and adequate grant funding to make the dream of higher education a reality. Students participating in such programs are more financially and academically prepared, and thus more likely to enroll in college and persist to degree completion.

Our legislation also simplifies the financial aid process for low-income students. It allows more students to qualify for an Automatic-Zero Expected Family Contribution, aligning its eligibility with the standards for other Federal means-tested programs, like free school lunch, SSI, and Food Stamps. Students and families should not have to prove over and over again that they are low-income, and asking students to fill out lengthy forms when they already meet the eligibility level for Pell Grants is a burden we should ease.

In a similar vein, the legislation establishes a short, paper FAFSA-EZ application form for students qualifying for the auto-zero along with a tailored web-based system and a free telefile system for students without Internet access.

The ACCESS Act also expands college access for low-income students, in part by prohibiting a qualified education benefit, like education savings plans, from being considered as a student asset and by reducing the work penalty. The current income protection allowance levels are unrealistically low, creating a disincentive for students who work in order to pay college costs. I look forward to receiving further information on this and other problems addressed in the legislation when the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance completes work on the congressionally mandated financial aid simplification study later this year.

We must act on this legislation and others to make sure that every student who works hard and plays by the rules gets the opportunity to live the American Dream.

I was pleased to work with the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance, and a host of other higher education organizations and charitable foundations, including Scholarship America, on this legislation. I am also pleased that this legislation has the support of a range of higher education and student groups, including the American Association of Community Colleges, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, the American Council on Education, the Association of American Universities, the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities, the Center for Law and Social Policy, the Council for Opportunity in Education, National Association for College Admission Counseling, the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs, the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, the United Negro College Fund, and the United States Student Association.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation and work for its inclusion in the upcoming reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of this legislation be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2477

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 ''Accessing College through Comprehensive Early Outreach, State Partnerships, and Simplification Act''.

SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR ACCESS AND PERSISTENCE.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 415A(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070c(b)) is amended by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subpart $500,000,000 for fiscal year 2005, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 5 succeeding fiscal years.

''(2) RESERVATION.—For any fiscal year for which the amount appropriated under paragraph (1) exceeds $30,000,000, the excess amount shall be available to carry out section 415E.''.

(b) APPLICATIONS FOR LEVERAGING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS.—Section 415C(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070c–2(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ''$5,000'' and inserting ''$12,500'';

(2) in paragraph (9), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon;

(3) in paragraph (10), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(11) provides notification to eligible students that such grants are—

''(A) Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Grants; and

''(B) funded by the Federal Government and the State.''.

(c) GRANTS FOR ACCESS AND PERSISTENCE.—Section 415E of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070c–3a) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 415E. GRANTS FOR ACCESS AND PERSISTENCE.

''(a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section to expand college access and increase college persistence by making allotments to States to enable the States to—

''(1) expand and enhance partnerships with institutions of higher education, early information and intervention, mentoring, or outreach programs, private corporations, philanthropic organizations, and other interested parties to carry out activities under this section and to provide coordination and cohesion among Federal, State, and local governmental and private efforts that provide financial assistance to help low-income students attend college;

''(2) provide need-based access and persistence grants to eligible low-income students;

''(3) provide early notification to low-income students of their eligibility for financial aid; and

''(4) encourage increased participation in early information and intervention, mentoring, or outreach programs.

''(b) ALLOTMENTS TO STATES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) AUTHORIZATION.—From sums reserved under section 415A(b)(2) for each fiscal year, the Secretary shall make an allotment to each State that submits an application for an allotment in accordance with subsection (c) to enable the State to pay the Federal share of the cost of carrying out the activities under subsection (d).

''(B) DETERMINATION OF ALLOTMENT.—In making allotments under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall consider the following:

''(i) CONTINUATION OF AWARD.—If a State continues to meet the specifications established in its application under subsection (c), the Secretary shall make an allotment to such State that is not less than the allotment made to such State for the previous fiscal year.

''(ii) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority in making allotments to States that meet the requirements under paragraph (2)(B)(iii).

''(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the cost of carrying out the activities under subsection (d) for any fiscal year may not exceed 66.66 percent.

''(B) DIFFERENT PERCENTAGES.—The Federal share under this section shall be determined in accordance with the following:

''(i) If a State applies for an allotment under this section in partnership with any number of degree granting institutions of higher education in the State whose combined full-time enrollment represents less than a majority of all students attending institutions of higher education in the State, then the Federal share of the cost of carrying out the activities under subsection (d) shall be equal to 50 percent.

''(ii) If a State applies for an allotment under this section in partnership with any number of degree granting institutions of higher education in the State whose combined full-time enrollment represents less than a majority of all students attending institutions of higher education in the State, and philanthropic organizations that are located in, or who provide funding in, the State or private corporations that are located in, or who do business in, the State, then the Federal share of the cost of carrying out the activities under subsection (d) shall be equal to 57 percent.

''(iii) If a State applies for an allotment under this section in partnership with any number of degree granting institutions of higher education in the State whose combined full-time enrollment represents a majority of all students attending institutions of higher education in the State, philanthropic organizations that are located in, or who provide funding in, the State, and private corporations that are located in, or who do business in, the State, then the Federal share of the cost of carrying out the activities under subsection (d) shall be equal to 66.66 percent.

''(c) APPLICATION FOR ALLOTMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) SUBMISSION.—A State that desires to receive an allotment under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

''(B) CONTENT.—An application submitted under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

''(i) A description of the State's plan for using the allotted funds.

''(ii) Assurances that the State will provide matching funds, from State, institutional, philanthropic, or private funds, of not less than 33.33 percent of the cost of carrying out the activities under subsection (d). The State shall specify the methods by which matching funds will be paid and include provisions designed to ensure that funds provided under this section will be used to supplement, and not supplant, Federal and non-Federal funds available for carrying out the activities under this title. A State that uses non-Federal funds to create or expand existing partnerships with nonprofit organizations or community-based organizations in which such organizations match State funds for student scholarships, may apply such matching funds from such organizations toward fulfilling the State's matching obligation under this clause.

''(iii) Assurances that early information and intervention, mentoring, or outreach programs exist within the State or that there is a plan to make such programs widely available.

''(iv) A description of the organizational structure that the State has in place to administer the activities under subsection (d), including a description of the system the State will use to track the participation of students who receive grants under this section to degree completion.

''(v) Assurances that the State has a method in place, such as acceptance of the automatic zero expected family contribution determination described in section 479, to identify eligible low-income students and award State grant aid to such students.

''(vi) Assurances that the State will provide notification to eligible low-income students that grants under this section are—

''(I) Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Grants; and

''(II) funded by the Federal Government and the State.

''(2) STATE AGENCY.—The State agency that submits an application for a State under section 415C(a) shall be the same State agency that submits an application under paragraph (1) for such State.

''(3) PARTNERSHIP.—

''(A) MANDATORY PARTNERS.—In applying for an allotment under this section, the State agency shall apply for the allotment in partnership with—

''(i) not less than 1 public and 1 private degree granting institution of higher education that are located in the State; and

''(ii) new or existing early information and intervention, mentoring, or outreach programs located in the State.

''(B) PERMISSIVE PARTNERS.—In addition to applying for an allotment under this section in partnership with degree granting institutions of higher education and early information and intervention, mentoring, or outreach programs, a State agency may also apply in partnership with philanthropic organizations that are located in, or who provide funding in, the State and private corporations that are located in, or who do business in, the State.

''(C) ROLES OF PARTNERS.—

''(i) STATE AGENCY.—A State agency that is in a partnership receiving an allotment under this section—

''(I) shall—

''(aa) serve as the primary administrative unit for the partnership;

''(bb) provide or coordinate matching funds, and coordinate activities among partners;

''(cc) encourage each institution of higher education in the State to participate in the partnership;

''(dd) make determinations and early notifications of assistance as described under subsection (d)(2); and

''(ee) annually report to the Secretary on the partnership's progress in meeting the purpose of this section; and

''(II) may provide early information and intervention, mentoring, or outreach programs.

''(ii) DEGREE GRANTING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—A degree granting institution of higher education that is in a partnership receiving an allotment under this section—

''(I) shall—

''(aa) recruit and admit participating qualified students and provide such additional institutional grant aid to participating students as agreed to with the State agency;

''(bb) provide support services to students who receive an access and persistence grant under this section and are enrolled at such institution; and

''(cc) assist the State in the identification of eligible students and the dissemination of early notifications of assistance as agreed to with the State agency; and

''(II) may provide funding for early information and intervention, mentoring, or outreach programs or provide such services directly.

''(iii) PROGRAMS.—An early information and intervention, mentoring, or outreach program that is in a partnership receiving an allotment under this section shall provide direct services, support, and information to participating students.

''(iv) PERMISSIVE PARTNERS.—A philanthropic organization or private corporation that is in a partnership receiving an allotment under this section shall provide funds for access and persistence grants for participating students, or provide funds or support for early information and intervention, mentoring, or outreach programs.

''(d) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT OF PARTNERSHIP.—Each State receiving an allotment under this section shall use the funds to establish a partnership to award access and persistence grants to eligible low-income students in order to increase the amount of financial assistance such students receive under this subpart for undergraduate education expenses.

''(B) AMOUNT.—

''(i) PARTNERSHIPS WITH INSTITUTIONS SERVING LESS THAN A MAJORITY OF STUDENTS IN THE STATE.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—In the case where a State receiving an allotment under this section is in a partnership described in clause (i) or (ii) of subsection (b)(2)(B), the amount of an access and persistence grant awarded by such State shall be not less than the amount that is equal to the average undergraduate tuition and mandatory fees at 4-year public institutions of higher education in the State where the student resides (less any other

Federal or State sponsored grant amount, college work study amount, and scholarship amount received by the student) and such amount shall be used toward the cost of attendance at an institution of higher education, located in the State, that is a partner in the partnership.

''(II) COST OF ATTENDANCE.—A State that has a program, apart from the partnership under this section, of providing eligible low-income students with grants that are equal to the average undergraduate tuition and mandatory fees at 4-year public institutions of higher education in the State, may increase the amount of access and persistence grants awarded by such State up to an amount that is equal to the average cost of attendance at 4-year public institutions of higher education in the State (less any other Federal or State sponsored grant amount, college work study amount, and scholarship amount received by the student).

''(ii) PARTNERSHIP WITH INSTITUTIONS SERVING THE MAJORITY OF STUDENTS IN THE STATE.—In the case where a State receiving an allotment under this section is in a partnership described in subsection (b)(2)(B)(iii), the amount of an access and persistence grant awarded by such State shall be up to an amount that is equal to the average cost of attendance at 4-year public institutions of higher education in the State where the student resides (less any other Federal or State sponsored grant amount, college work study amount, and scholarship amount received by the student) and such amount shall be used by the student to attend an institution of higher education, located in the State, that is a partner in the partnership.

''(2) EARLY NOTIFICATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each State receiving an allotment under this section shall annually notify low-income students, such as students who are eligible to receive a free lunch under the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, in grade 7 through grade 12 in the State of their potential eligibility for student financial assistance, including an access and persistence grant, to attend an institution of higher education.

''(B) CONTENT OF NOTICE.—The notification under subparagraph (A)—

''(i) shall include—

''(I) information about early information and intervention, mentoring, or outreach programs available to the student;

''(II) information that a student's candidacy for an access and persistence grant is enhanced through participation in an early information and intervention, mentoring, or outreach program;

''(III) an explanation that student and family eligibility and participation in other Federal means-tested programs may indicate eligibility for an access and persistence grant and other student aid programs;

''(IV) a nonbinding estimation of the total amount of financial aid a low-income student with a similar income level may expect to receive, including an estimation of the amount of an access and persistence grant and an estimation of the amount of grants, loans, and all other available types of aid from the major Federal and State financial aid programs;

''(V) an explanation that in order to be eligible for an access and persistence grant, at a minimum, a student shall meet the requirement under paragraph (3), graduate from secondary school, and enroll at an institution of higher education that is a partner in the partnership;

''(VI) information on any additional requirements (such as a student pledge detailing student responsibilities) that the State may impose for receipt of an access and persistence grant under this section; and

''(VII) instructions on how to apply for an access and persistence grant; and

''(ii) may include a disclaimer that access and persistence grant awards are contingent upon—

''(I) a determination of the student's financial eligibility at the time of the student's enrollment at an institution of higher education that is a partner in the partnership;

''(II) annual Federal and State appropriations; and

''(III) other aid received by the student at the time of the student's enrollment at an institution of higher education that is a partner in the partnership.

''(3) ELIGIBILITY.—In determining which students are eligible to receive access and persistence grants, the State shall ensure that each such student meets not less than 2 of the following criteria and give priority to students meeting all of the following criteria:

''(A) Has an expected family contribution equal to zero (as described in section 479) or a comparable alternative based upon the State's approved criteria in section 415C(b)(4).

''(B) Is participating in, or has participated in, a Federal, State, institutional, or community early information and intervention, mentoring, or outreach program, as recognized by the State agency administering activities under this section.

''(C) Has qualified for a free lunch, or at the State's discretion a reduced price lunch, under the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act.

''(D) Qualifies for the State's maximum undergraduate award, as authorized under section 415C(b).

''(E) Receives, or has received, an access and persistence grant under this section.

''(4) GRANT AWARD.—Once a student, including those who have received early notification under paragraph (2) from the State, applies for admission to an institution that is a partner in the partnership, files a Free Application for Federal Student Aid and any related existing State form, and is determined eligible by the State under paragraph (3), the State shall—

''(A) issue the student a preliminary access and persistence grant award certificate with tentative award amounts; and

''(B) inform the student that payment of the access and persistence grant award amounts is subject to certification of enrollment and award eligibility by the institution of higher education.

''(5) DURATION OF AWARD.—An eligible student that receives an access and persistence grant under this section shall receive such grant award for each year of such student's undergraduate education in which the student remains eligible for assistance under this title, including pursuant to section 484(c), and remains financially eligible as determined by the State, except that the State may impose reasonable time limits to baccalaureate degree completion.

''(e) ADMINISTRATIVE COST ALLOWANCE.—A State that receives an allotment under this section may reserve not more than 3.5 percent of the funds made available annually through the allotment for State administrative functions required to carry out this section.

''(f) STATUTORY AND REGULATORY RELIEF FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The Secretary may grant, upon the request of an institution of higher education that is in a partnership described in subsection (b)(2)(B)(iii) and that receives an allotment under this section, a waiver for such institution from statutory or regulatory requirements that inhibit the ability of the institution to successfully and efficiently participate in the activities of the partnership.

''(g) APPLICABILITY RULE.—The provisions of this subpart which are not inconsistent with this section shall apply to the program authorized by this section.

''(h) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT REQUIREMENT.—Each State receiving an allotment under this section for a fiscal year shall provide the Secretary an assurance that the aggregate amount expended per student or the aggregate expenditures by the State, from funds derived from non-Federal sources, for the authorized activities described in subsection (d) for the preceding fiscal year were not less than the amount expended per student or the aggregate expenditure by the State for the activities for the second preceding fiscal year.

''(i) REPORTS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Accessing College through Comprehensive Early Outreach, State Partnerships, and Simplification Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report describing the activities and the impact of the partnerships under this section to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives.''.

(d) CONTINUATION AND TRANSITION.—During the 2-year period commencing on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall continue to award grants under section 415E of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070c–3a), as such section existed on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, to States that choose to apply for grants under such predecessor section.

(e) IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION.—Section 491(j) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1098(j)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon; and

(2) by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the following:

''(5) not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of the Accessing College through Comprehensive Early Outreach, State Partnerships, and Simplification Act, advise the Secretary on means to implement the activities under section 415E, and the Advisory Committee shall continue to monitor, evaluate, and make recommendations on the progress of partnerships that receive allotments under such section; and''.

SEC. 3. SIMPLIFIED NEEDS TEST AND AUTOMATIC ZERO IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) SIMPLIFIED NEEDS TEST.—Section 479 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ss) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (A)(i) and inserting the following:

''(i) the student's parents—

''(I) file, or are eligible to file, a form described in paragraph (3);

''(II) certify that they are not required to file an income tax return;

''(III) 1 of whom is a dislocated worker; or

''(IV) or the student received benefits at some time during the previous 24-month period under a means-tested Federal benefit program as defined under subsection (d); and''; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B)(i) and inserting the following:

''(i) the student (and the student's spouse, if any)—

''(I) files, or is eligible to file, a form described in paragraph (3);

''(II) certifies that the student (and the student's spouse, if any) is not required to file an income tax return;

''(III) is a dislocated worker; or

''(IV) received benefits at some time during the previous 24-month period under a

means-tested Federal benefit program as defined under subsection (d); and''; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking ''A student or family files a form described in this subsection, or subsection (c), as the case may be, if the student or family, respectively, files'' and inserting ''In the case of an independent student, the student, or in the case of a dependent student, the family, files a form described in this subsection, or subsection (c), as the case may be, if the student or family, as appropriate, files'';

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

''(A) the student's parents—

''(i) file, or are eligible to file, a form described in subsection (b)(3);

''(ii) certify that they are not required to file an income tax return;

''(iii) 1 of whom is a dislocated worker; or

''(iv) or the student received benefits at some time during the previous 24-month period under a means-tested Federal benefit program as defined under subsection (d); and''; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) the sum of the adjusted gross income of the parents is less than or equal to $25,000; or'';

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

''(A) the student (and the student's spouse, if any)—

''(i) files, or is eligible to file, a form described in subsection (b)(3);

''(ii) certifies that the student (and the student's spouse, if any) is not required to file an income tax return;

''(iii) is a dislocated worker; or

''(iv) received benefits at some time during the previous 24-month period under a means-tested Federal benefit program as defined under subsection (d); and''; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) the sum of the adjusted gross income of the student and spouse (if appropriate) is less than or equal to $25,000.''; and

(C) by striking the flush matter at the end and inserting the following:

''The Secretary shall annually adjust the income level necessary to qualify an applicant for the zero expected family contribution. The income level shall be adjusted according to increases in the Consumer Price Index, as defined in section 478(f).''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) DISLOCATED WORKER.—The term 'dislocated worker' has the same meaning given the term in section 101 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801).

''(2) MEANS-TESTED FEDERAL BENEFIT PROGRAM.—The term 'means-tested Federal benefit program' means a mandatory spending program of the Federal Government in which eligibility for the program's benefits, or the amount of such benefits, or both, are determined on the basis of income or resources of the individual or family seeking the benefit, and includes the supplemental security income program under title XVI of the Social Security Act, the food stamp program under the Food Stamp Act of 1977, and the free and reduced price school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act.''.

(b) DISCRETION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID ADMINISTRATORS.—Section 479A(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087tt(a)) is amended in the third sentence by inserting ''a family member who is a dislocated worker (as defined in section 101 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801)),'' after ''recent unemployment of a family member,''.

SEC. 4. IMPROVING PAPER AND ELECTRONIC FORMS.

(a) SIMPLIFIED NEEDS TEST.—Section 479(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ss(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) SIMPLIFIED FORMS.—The Secretary shall make special efforts to notify families meeting the requirements of subsection (c) that such families may use the FAFSA–EZ or the simplified electronic application form established under section 483(a).''.

(b) COMMON FINANCIAL AID FORM DEVELOPMENT AND PROCESSING.—Section 483 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1090) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraphs (1), (2), and (5);

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), (6), and (7), as paragraphs (7), (8), (9), and (10), respectively;

(C) by inserting before paragraph (7), as redesignated by subparagraph (B), the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation with representatives of agencies and organizations involved in student financial assistance, shall produce, distribute, and process free of charge common financial reporting forms as described in this subsection to be used for application and reapplication to determine the need and eligibility of a student for financial assistance under parts A through E (other than subpart 4 of part A). These forms shall be made available to applicants in both paper and electronic formats and shall be referred to as the 'Free Application for Federal Student Aid'.

''(2) PAPER FORMAT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall produce, distribute, and process common forms in paper format to meet the requirements of paragraph (1). The Secretary shall develop a common paper form for applicants who do not meet the requirements of subparagraph (B).

''(B) FAFSA-EZ.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop and use a simplified paper application form, to be known as the 'FAFSA–EZ', to be used for applicants meeting the requirements of section 479(c).

''(ii) REDUCED DATA REQUIREMENTS.—The FAFSA–EZ shall permit an applicant to submit for financial assistance purposes, only the data elements required to make a determination of whether the applicant meets the requirements under section 479(c).

''(iii) STATE DATA.—The Secretary shall include on the FAFSA–EZ space for information that needs to be submitted from the applicant to be eligible for State financial assistance, as provided under paragraph (5), except the Secretary shall not include a State's data if that State does not permit its applicants for State assistance to use the FAFSA–EZ.

''(iv) FREE AVAILABILITY AND PROCESSING.—The provisions of paragraph (6) shall apply to the FAFSA–EZ, and the data collected by means of the FAFSA–EZ shall be available to institutions of higher education, guaranty agencies, and States in accordance with paragraph (7).

''(v) TESTING.—The Secretary shall conduct appropriate field testing on the FAFSA–EZ.

''(C) PHASING OUT THE PAPER FORM FOR STUDENTS WHO DO NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AUTOMATIC ZERO EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make all efforts to encourage all applicants to utilize the electronic forms described in paragraph (3).

''(ii) PHASEOUT OF FULL FAFSA.—Not later than award year 2009–2010, the Secretary shall phaseout the long paper form for applicants who do not qualify for the FAFSA–EZ.

''(iii) USE OF SAVINGS TO ADDRESS THE DIGITAL DIVIDE.—The Secretary shall utilize savings accrued by moving more applicants to the electronic forms to improve access to the electronic forms for applicants meeting the requirements of section 479(c).

''(3) ELECTRONIC FORMAT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall produce, distribute, and process common forms in electronic format to meet the requirements of paragraph (1). The Secretary shall develop a common electronic form for applicants who do not meet the requirements of subparagraph (B).

''(B) SIMPLIFIED APPLICATION: FAFSA ON THE WEB.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop and use a simplified electronic application form to be used by applicants meeting the requirements under subsection (b) or (c) of section 479.

''(ii) REDUCED DATA REQUIREMENTS.—The simplified electronic application form shall permit an applicant to submit for financial assistance purposes, only the data elements required to make a determination of whether the applicant meets the requirements under subsection (b) or (c) of section 479.

''(iii) STATE DATA.—The Secretary shall include on the simplified electronic application form space for information that needs to be submitted from the applicant to be eligible for State financial assistance, as provided under paragraph (5), except the Secretary shall not include a State's data if that State does not permit its applicants for State assistance to use the simplified electronic application form.

''(iv) FREE AVAILABILITY AND PROCESSING.—The provisions of paragraph (6) shall apply to the simplified electronic application form, and the data collected by means of the simplified electronic application form shall be available to institutions of higher education, guaranty agencies, and States in accordance with paragraph (7).

''(v) TESTING.—The Secretary shall conduct appropriate field testing on the form developed under this subparagraph.

''(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the use of the form developed by the Secretary pursuant to this paragraph by an eligible institution, eligible lender, guaranty agency, State grant agency, private computer software providers, a consortium thereof, or such other entities as the Secretary may designate.

''(D) PRIVACY.—The Secretary shall ensure that data collection under this paragraph complies with section 552a of title 5, United States Code, and that any entity using the electronic version of the forms developed by the Secretary pursuant to this paragraph shall maintain reasonable and appropriate administrative, technical, and physical safeguards to ensure the integrity and confidentiality of the information, and to protect against security threats, or unauthorized uses or disclosures of the information provided on the electronic version of the form. Data collected by such electronic version of the form shall be used only for the application, award, and administration of aid awarded under this title, State aid, or aid awarded by eligible institutions or such entities as the Secretary may designate. No data collected by such electronic version of the form shall be used for making final aid awards under this title until such data have been processed by the Secretary or a contractor or designee of the Secretary, except as may be permitted under this title.

''(E) SIGNATURE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary may permit an electronic form to be submitted without a signature, if a signature is subsequently submitted by the applicant.

''(F) PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary is authorized to assign to applicants personal identification numbers—

''(i) to enable the applicants to use such numbers in lieu of a signature for purposes of completing a form under this paragraph; and

''(ii) for any purpose determined by the Secretary to enable the Secretary to carry out this title.

''(4) REAPPLICATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop streamlined reapplication forms and processes, including both paper and electronic reapplication processes, consistent with the requirements of this subsection, for an applicant who applies for financial assistance under this title in the next succeeding academic year subsequent to the year in which such applicant first applied for financial assistance under this title.

''(B) UPDATED.—The Secretary shall determine, in cooperation with States, institutions of higher education, agencies and organizations involved in student financial assistance, the data elements that can be updated from the previous academic year's application.

''(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this title shall be construed as limiting the authority of the Secretary to reduce the number of data elements required of reapplicants.

''(D) ZERO FAMILY CONTRIBUTION.—Applicants determined to have a zero family contribution pursuant to section 479(c) shall not be required to provide any financial data in a reapplication form, except that which is necessary to determine eligibility under such section.

''(5) STATE REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall include on the forms developed under this subsection, such State-specific nonfinancial data items as the Secretary determines are necessary to meet State requirements for need-based State aid. Such items shall be selected in consultation with States to assist in the awarding of State financial assistance in accordance with the terms of this subsection. The number of such data items shall not be less than the number included on the form on October 7, 1998, unless States notify the Secretary that they no longer require those data items for the distribution of State need-based aid.

''(B) ANNUAL REVIEW.—The Secretary shall conduct an annual review process to determine which nonfinancial data items the States require to award need-based State aid and other application requirements that the States may impose.

''(C) FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE.—The Secretary shall publish on an annual basis a notice in the Federal Register requiring State agencies to inform the Secretary—

''(i) if they are unable to permit applicants to utilize the FAFSA–EZ or the simplified electronic application form; and

''(ii) of the State-specific nonfinancial data that the State agency requires for delivery of State need-based financial aid.

''(D) STATE NOTIFICATION TO THE SECRETARY.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall notify the Secretary whether it permits an applicant to file a form described in paragraph (2)(B) or (3)(B) for purposes of determining eligibility for State need-based grant aid.

''(ii) NO PERMISSION.—In the event that a State does not permit an applicant to file a form described in paragraph (2)(B) or (3)(B) for purposes of determining eligibility for State need-based grant aid—

''(I) the State shall notify the Secretary if it is not permitted to do so because of either State law or because of agency policy; and

''(II) the notification under subclause (I) shall include an estimate of the program cost to permit applicants to complete FAFSA–EZs and simplified electronic application forms.

''(iii) LACK OF NOTIFICATION BY THE STATE.—If a State does not notify the Secretary pursuant to clause (i), the Secretary shall—

''(I) permit residents of that State to complete a FAFSA–EZ or a simplified electronic application form; and

''(II) not require any resident of that State to complete any nonfinancial data previously required by that State.

''(E) RESTRICTION.—The Secretary shall not require applicants to complete any nonfinancial data or financial data that are not required by the applicant's State agency, except as may be required for applicants who use the common paper form.

''(6) CHARGES TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS FOR USE OF FORMS PROHIBITED.—The common financial reporting forms prescribed by the Secretary under this subsection shall be produced, distributed, and processed by the Secretary and no parent or student shall be charged a fee by the Secretary, a contractor, a third party servicer or private software provider, or any other public or private entity for the collection, processing, or delivery of financial aid through the use of such forms. The need and eligibility of a student for financial assistance under parts A through E (other than under subpart 4 of part A) may only be determined by using a form developed by the Secretary pursuant to this subsection. No student may receive assistance under parts A through E (other than under subpart 4 of part A), except by use of a form developed by the Secretary pursuant to this subsection. No data collected on a paper or electronic form, worksheet, or other document for which a fee is charged shall be used to complete the form prescribed under this subsection. No person, commercial entity, or other entity shall request, obtain, or utilize an applicant's Personal Identification Number for purposes of submitting an application on an applicant's behalf except State agencies that have entered into an agreement with the Secretary to streamline applications, eligible institutions, or programs under this title as permitted by the Secretary.'';

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) EARLY NOTIFICATION OF AID ELIGIBILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make every effort to provide students with early information about potential financial aid eligibility.

''(2) AVAILABILITY OF MEANS TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide, in cooperation with States, institutions of higher education, agencies, and organizations involved in student financial assistance, both through a widely disseminated printed form and the Internet or other electronic means, a system for individuals to determine easily, by entering relevant data, approximately the amount of grant, work-study, and loan assistance for which an individual would be eligible under this title upon completion and verification of form under subsection (a).

''(B) DETERMINATION OF WHETHER TO USE SIMPLIFIED APPLICATION.—The system established under this paragraph shall also permit users to determine whether or not they may apply for aid using a FAFSA–EZ or a simplified electronic application form under subsection (a).

''(3) AVAILABILITY OF MEANS TO COMMUNICATE ELIGIBILITY.—

''(A) LOWER-INCOME STUDENTS.—The Secretary shall—

''(i) make special efforts to notify students who qualify for a free or reduced price lunch under the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, benefits under the food stamp program under the Food Stamp Act of 1977, or benefits under such programs as the Secretary shall determine, of such students' potential eligibility for a maximum Federal Pell Grant under subpart 1 of part A; and

''(ii) disseminate informational materials regarding the linkage between eligibility for means-tested Federal benefit programs and eligibility for a Federal Pell Grant, as determined necessary by the Secretary.

''(B) MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS.—The Secretary shall, in cooperation with States, middle schools, programs under this title that serve middle school students, and other cooperating independent outreach programs, make special efforts to notify middle school students of the availability of financial assistance under this title and of the approximate amounts of grant, work-study, and loan assistance an individual would be eligible for under this title.

''(C) SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.—The Secretary shall, in cooperation with States, secondary schools, programs under this title that serve secondary school students, and cooperating independent outreach programs, make special efforts to notify students in their junior year of secondary school the approximate amounts of grant, work-study, and loan assistance an individual would be eligible for under this title upon completion and verification of an application form under subsection (a).'';

(3) in subsection (c), by striking ''Labor and Human Resources'' and inserting ''Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions'';

(4) by striking subsection (d); and

(5) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (d).

(c) TOLL-FREE APPLICATION AND INFORMATION.—Section 479 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087ss), as amended by section 3, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) TOLL-FREE APPLICATION AND INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall contract for, or establish, and publicize a toll-free telephone service to provide an application mechanism and timely and accurate information to the general public. The information provided shall include specific instructions on completing the application form for assistance under this title. Such service shall also include a service accessible by telecommunications devices for the deaf (TDD's) and shall, in addition to the services provided for in the previous sentence, refer such students to the national clearinghouse on postsecondary education that is authorized under section 685(d)(2)(C) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Accessing College through Comprehensive Early Outreach, State Partnerships, and Simplification Act, the Secretary shall test and implement a toll-free telephone-based application system to permit applicants to utilize the FAFSA–EZ or simplified electronic application form under section 483(a) over such system.''.

(d) MASTER CALENDAR.—Section 482(a)(1)(B) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1089) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) by March 1: proposed modifications and updates pursuant to sections 478 and 483(a)(5) published in the Federal Register;''.

SEC. 5. ALLOWANCE FOR STATE AND OTHER TAXES.

Section 478(g) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087rr(g)) is amended to read as follows:

''(g) STATE AND OTHER TAX ALLOWANCE.—For each award year after award year 2004–2005, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a revised table of State and other tax allowances for the purpose of sections 475(c)(2), 475(g)(3), 476(b)(2), and 477(b)(2). The Secretary shall develop such revised table after review of the Department of the Treasury's Statistics of Income file and determination of the percentage of income that each State's taxes represent. Updates shall be phased in proportionately over a period of time equal to the number of years since the last update.''.

SEC. 6. SUPPORT FOR WORKING STUDENTS.

(a) DEPENDENT STUDENTS.—Section 475(g)(2)(D) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087oo(g)(2)(D)) is amended to read as follows:

''(D) $9,000;''.

(b) INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITHOUT DEPENDENTS OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.—Section 476(b)(1)(A)(iv) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087pp(b)(1)(A)(iv)) is amended to read as follows:

''(iv) an income protection allowance of the following amount (or a successor amount prescribed by the Secretary under section 478)—

''(I) $10,000 for single students;

''(II) $10,000 for married students where both are enrolled pursuant to subsection (a)(2); and

''(III) $13,000 for married students where 1 is enrolled pursuant to subsection (a)(2);''.

(c) INDEPENDENT STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS OTHER THAN A SPOUSE.—Section 477(b)(4) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087qq(b)(4)) is amended to read as follows:

''(4) INCOME PROTECTION ALLOWANCE.—The income protection allowance is determined by the following table (or a successor table prescribed by the Secretary under section 478):

''Income Protection Allowance

Family Size	Number in College				
	1	2	3	4	5
2	$17,580	$15,230			
3	20,940	17,610	$16,260		
4	24,950	22,600	20,270	$17,930	
5	28,740	26,390	24,060	21,720	$19,390
6	32,950	30,610	28,280	25,940	23,610

NOTE: For each additional family member, add $3,280.
For each additional college student, subtract $2,330.''.

SEC. 7. TREATMENT OF PREPAYMENT AND SAVINGS PLANS UNDER STUDENT FINANCIAL AID NEEDS ANALYSIS.

(a) DEFINITION OF ASSETS.—Section 480(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(f)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''qualified education benefits (except as provided in paragraph (3)),'' after ''tax shelters,''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) A qualified education benefit shall not be considered an asset of a student for purposes of section 475.

''(4) In this subsection, the term 'qualified education benefit' means—

''(A) a program that is described in clause (i) of section 529(b)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and that meets the requirements of section 529(b)(1)(B) of such Code;

''(B) a State tuition program described in clause (ii) of section 529(b)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that meets the requirements of section 529(b)(1)(B) of such Code; and

''(C) a Coverdell education savings account (as defined in section 530(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986).''.

(b) DEFINITION OF OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 480(j) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(j)) is amended—

(1) in the heading, by striking ''; TUITION PREPAYMENT PLANS';

(2) by striking paragraph (2); and

(3) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to determinations of need under part F of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087kk et seq.) for academic years beginning on or after July 1, 2005.

SEC. 8. ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

Section 491 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1098), as amended by section 2, is further amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) to provide knowledge and understanding of early intervention programs and make recommendations that will result in early awareness by low- and moderate-income students and families of their eligibility for assistance under this title, and, to the extent practicable, their eligibility for other forms of State and institutional need-based student assistance; and

''(E) to make recommendations that will expand and improve partnerships among the Federal Government, States, institutions, and private entities to increase the awareness and total amount of need-based student assistance available to low- and moderate-income students.'';

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (6), by striking '', but nothing in this section shall authorize the committee to perform such studies, surveys, or analyses'';

(B) in paragraph (8), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (9) as paragraph (10); and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

''(9) monitor the adequacy of total need-based aid available to low- and moderate-income students from all sources, assess the implications for access and persistence, and report those implications annually to Congress and the Secretary; and'';

(3) in subsection (j), by adding at the end the following:

''(6) monitor and assess implementation of improvements called for under this title, make recommendations to the Secretary that ensure the timely design, testing, and implementation of the improvements, and report annually to Congress and the Secretary on progress made toward simplifying overall delivery, reducing data elements and questions, incorporating the latest technology, aligning Federal, State, and institutional eligibility, enhancing partnerships, and improving early awareness of total student aid eligibility for low- and moderate-income students and families.''; and

(4) in subsection (k), by striking ''2004'' and inserting ''2010''.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 2479. A bill to amend chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, to provide for Federal employees to make elections to make, modify, and terminate contributions to the Thrift Savings Fund at any time, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, today, I am pleased to be joined by my colleagues, Senators AKAKA, FITZGERALD, LIEBERMAN, and VOINOVICH in introducing the Thrift Savings Plan Open Elections Act of 2004. This legislation would provide Federal employees with maximum flexibility to tailor their investment decisions by eliminating the current restrictions on when employee contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan can begin or be modified.

Since its inception in 1987, the Thrift Savings Plan has provided Federal employees with the opportunity to participate in a retirement savings plan similar to the 401(k) plans offered by many private companies. The open seasons were created to encourage Federal employees to contribute money toward their retirement. Open seasons were practical during the early years when the Thrift Savings Plan was just getting started and lacked the administrative capability to quickly enroll participants and to implement investment elections on a real-time basis. With the introduction of the automatic record-keeping system, however, the program has outgrown its existing framework.

Under current law, newly hired employees can sign up to contribute to the Thrift Savings Plan during an initial 60-day eligibility period. If an employee chooses not to make an election, he or she must wait until an open season to do so. Further, if an employee stops contributing to the Thrift Savings Plan outside of an open season, he or she must wait until the second open season after contributions stop before contributions can resume. These

restrictions can unfairly penalize employees and discourage their participation. But allowing employees to initiate, modify, or terminate contributions to the TSP in any period, provided the amount does not exceed existing limits for contributions, the legislation ensures that Federal employees' investment decisions will no longer be restricted by the open season requirement.

In testimony before the Congress, Andrew Saul, Chairman of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, stated that the Board supports the elimination of the open season requirement because it would expand participant access and simplify the administration of the Thrift Savings Plan. Jim Sauber, Chairman of the Employee Thrift Advisory Council, testified in March 2004 that eliminating the TSP open season is perhaps the single best way to reach the 13 percent of employees in the Federal Employees Retirement System who still do not make contributions to the TSP.

In addition to the support by the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board and the Employee Thrift Advisory Council, the legislation is supported by the American Federation of Government Employees, the National Treasury Employees Union, the National Association of Retired Federal Employees, the Federal Managers Association, and the Senior Executives Association.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN OPEN ELECTIONS ACT OF 2004

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President. I am delighted to join with Senator COLLINS and other colleagues on the Governmental Affairs Committee to introduce the Thrift Savings Plan Open Elections Act of 2004. Our bill will provide participants in the Thrift Savings Plan, TSP, significant flexibility in managing their TSP accounts.

Over the years, I have successfully offered legislation which has ensured that Federal employees enrolled in the Government's retirement savings plan enjoy the same opportunities afforded to employees in the private and public sectors, such as the ability to make additional contributions to the TSP for those over the age of 50 and immediate enrollment for new employees. This new bill would eliminate open seasons, which prohibit employees who choose not to contribute to wait until for a specific amount of time if they later decide to participate.

I am especially pleased that the legislation also includes a section devoted to enhancing financial literacy for Federal employees. As my colleagues know, I have long championed the need for expanded financial literacy for Americans of all ages and background who face increasingly complex financial decisions as members of the Nation's workforce, managers of their families' resources, and voting citizens.

Our bill directs the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, FRTIB, which administers the TSP, to enhance the tools available to TSP participants so that they will be better able to understand, evaluate, and compare the financial products, services, and opportunities available from the Thrift Savings Plan. The measure also requires that as part of the retirement training offered by the Office of Personnel Management, OPM, that OPM, in consultation with the board, develop a retirement financial literacy and education strategy for Federal employees. I wish to commend both the thrift board and OPM for the work that has already been undertaken to increase financial literacy among Federal employees, including the recent OPM-sponsored financial literacy fairs.

As for all Americans, financial literacy education is essential for Federal employees to develop a base of knowledge so that they can participate effectively in the modern economy. We must find opportunities to get information to individuals at the appropriate times throughout their lives as their financial situations and needs change. I believe that the provisions in this bill will give Federal employees the tools needed to empower them to make informed decisions regarding their retirement and financial security.

I strongly urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 2480. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to research and prevent drug impaired driving; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, every half hour, somewhere in this country somebody is killed as a result of an alcohol related traffic accident. This is a sobering statistic. Thanks in part to a massive national response, nearly 1.5 million people are arrested and taken off the road each year for driving under the influence of alcohol, undoubtedly saving lives. But, there is an equally dangerous and potentially devastating problem lurking on our Nation's highways that is going largely undetected.

In 2002, nearly 11 million people drove under the influence of illegal drugs, according to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health Report. While the effort to reduce drunk driving is making progress, those using illegal drugs like marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine, and opiates continue to get behind the wheel, putting each of us at risk everyday.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, drugs are used by approximately 10 to 22 percent of all drivers involved in fatal motor vehicle crashes. In 2003, a study conducted at the Shock Trauma Center at the University of Maryland Hospital in Baltimore found that testing for alcohol alone would have identified less than 30 percent of all the substance abusing drivers admitted to the trauma unit as a result of a motor vehicle accident. Drugged driving is clearly a serious problem.

While it is illegal in all 50 States to drive a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs, there is no consistency in the way the States approach drug impaired drivers. In fact, existing laws often hinder the prosecution of drugged drivers. Adding further difficulty, there currently is no road side test to detect the presence of a controlled substance in a driver's body.

In response to these challenges, today I am pleased to be joined by Senator FEINSTEIN in introducing legislation designed to encourage States to develop and carry out drug impaired driving traffic safety programs. By adopting a model statute, States become eligible for grants that would assist drivers in need of drug treatment, as well as grants that would enhance the training of law enforcement and prosecutors. Furthermore, in an effort to keep drug impaired drivers off the road, passage of this legislation will advance the research and development of a roadside testing mechanism.

Clearly there is a need to strengthen efforts to identify, prosecute, and treat drugged drivers. Just as the coordinated efforts to prevent drunk driving have saved lives, so too can the devastating consequences of drugged driving be prevented. I encourage my colleagues to join in support of this legislation.

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

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

S. 2480

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 ''Drug Impaired Driving Research and Prevention Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) driving under the influence of, or after having used, illegal drugs has become a significant problem worldwide;

(2) in 2002, over 35,000,000 persons in the United States aged 12 or older had used illegal drugs in the past year and almost 11,000,000 of these persons (5 percent of the total population of the United States aged 12 or older and 31 percent of past year illicit drug users) had driven under the influence of, or after having used, illegal drugs in the past year;

(3) research has established that abuse of a number of drugs can impair driving performance;

(4) according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, illegal drugs (often in combination with alcohol) are used by approximately 10 to 22 percent of drivers involved in all motor vehicles crashes;

(5) drug impaired drivers are less frequently detected, prosecuted, or referred to treatment than drunk drivers;

(6) there is a lack of uniformity or consistency in the way the 50 States approach drug impaired drivers;

(7) too few police officers have been trained to detect drug impaired drivers, and too few prosecutors have been trained to prove drug impaired driving cases beyond a reasonable doubt;

(8) per se drug impaired driving laws, like those used for driving under the influence of alcohol, are feasible and represent a sound strategy for dealing with drug impaired drivers and can assist in the prosecution of drug impaired driving offenders; and

(9) while it is illegal in all States to drive a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, drugs other than alcohol, or a combination of alcohol and other drugs, there is no consistent method across States for identifying drug impairment and the presence of drugs in the body.

SEC. 3. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to provide a model for States to implement and enforce a drug impaired driving statute;

(2) to ensure drivers in need of drug education or treatment are identified and provided with the appropriate assistance;

(3) to advance research and development of testing mechanisms and knowledge about drugged driving and its impact on traffic safety; and

(4) to enhance the training of traffic safety officers and prosecutors to detect, enforce, and prosecute drug impaired driving laws.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE.—The term ''controlled substance'' includes substances listed in schedules I through V of section 112(e) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(e)).

(2) INHALANT.—The term ''inhalant'' means a household or commercial product that can be used by inhaling for intoxicating effect.

(3) DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERT.—The term ''drug recognition expert'' means an individual trained in a specific evaluation procedure that enables the person to determine whether an individual is under the influence of drugs and then to determine the type of drug causing the observable impairment.

SEC. 5. MODEL STATUTE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop and provide to the States a model statute relating to drug impaired driving which incorporates the provisions described in this Act.

(b) MANDATORY PROVISIONS.—Provisions of the model statute developed by the Secretary for recommendation to the States under this section shall include, at a minimum, a provision that the crime of drug impaired driving is committed when a person operates a motor vehicle—

(1) while any detectable amount of a controlled substance is present in the person's body, as measured in the person's blood, urine, saliva, or other bodily substance; or

(2) due to the presence of a controlled substance or a controlled substance in combination with alcohol or an inhalant, or both, in the person's body, the person's mental or physical faculties are affected to a noticeable or perceptible degree.

(c) DISCRETIONARY PROVISIONS.—Provisions of the model statute developed by the Secretary for recommendation to the States under this section may include the following:

(1) Sanctions for refusing to submit to a test for the presence of a controlled substance in a person's body which are equivalent to sanctions for a positive test result.

(2) Lawful use of any controlled substance listed in schedule II, III, IV, or V of section 112(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812(c)) that was lawfully prescribed by a physician licensed under State law is an affirmative defense to a charge of drug impaired driving; except that the affirmative defense shall not be available if it is shown that the person's mental or physical faculties were impaired by such use to a noticeable or perceptible degree.

(3) A graduated system of penalties for repeat offenses of drug impaired driving, including, at a minimum, that a third or subsequent offense within a 10-year period shall be a felony punishable by imprisonment for more than a year.

(4) Authorization for States to suspend or revoke the license of any driver upon receiving a record of the driver's conviction of driving a motor vehicle while under the influence of a controlled substance.

(5) Provisions that require a sentence of imprisonment imposed for any drug impaired driving offense be served consecutively, not concurrently, from a sentence imposed for any other criminal act; except that a sentence imposed for the same act of impaired driving may be imposed concurrently if the additional conviction was based on an alternate theory of culpability for the same act.

(6) An appropriate system of evaluation, counseling, treatment (if required), and supervision for persons convicted of drug impaired driving.

SEC. 6. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

Section 403(b) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) New technology to detect drug use.

''(6) Research and development to improve testing technology, including toxicology lab resources and field test mechanisms to enable States to process toxicology evidence in a more timely manner.

''(7) Determining per se impairment levels for controlled substances and the compound effects of alcohol and controlled substances on impairment to facilitate enforcement of per se drug impaired driving laws. Research under this paragraph shall be carried out in collaboration with the National Institute on Drug Abuse of the National Institutes of Health.''.

SEC. 7. GOALS FOR TRAINING.

Section 403 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(g) TRAINING GOALS.—For the purpose of enhancing the States' ability to detect, enforce, and prosecute drug impaired driving laws, the Secretary shall—

''(1) establish and carry out programs to enhance police and prosecutor training efforts for enforcement of laws relating to drug impaired driving and for development of programs to improve enforcement of such laws; and

''(2) ensure that drug impaired driving enforcement training or drug recognition expert programs, or both, exist in all 50 States and the District of Columbia by December 31, 2006.''.

SEC. 8. DUTIES.

The Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall—

(1) advise and coordinate with other Federal agencies on how to address the problem of driving under the influence of an illegal drug; and

(2) conduct research on the prevention, detection, and prosecution of driving under the influence of an illegal drug.

SEC. 9. REPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall transmit to Congress a report on the progress being made in carrying out this Act, including the amendments made by this Act.

(b) CONTENTS.—The Secretary shall include in the report an assessment of the status of drug impaired driving laws in the United States—

(1) new research and technologies in the area of drug impaired driving enforcement;

(2) a description of the extent of the problem of driving under the influence of an illegal drug in each State and any available information relating thereto, including a description of any laws relating to the problem of driving under the influence of an illegal drug; and

(3) recommendations for addressing the problem of driving under the influence of an illegal drug.

SEC. 10. FUNDING.

Out of amounts appropriated to carry out section 403 of title 23, United States Code, for fiscal years 2004 through 2009, the Secretary shall use, at a minimum, $1,200,000 per fiscal year to carry out drug impaired driving traffic safety programs, including the provisions of this section and the amendments made by this section.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 112—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL PURPLE HEART RECOGNITION DAY

Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. HAGEL) submitting the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. CON. RES. 112

Whereas the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in the world in present use;

Whereas the Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to members of the Armed Forces who are wounded in conflict with an enemy force or are wounded while held by an enemy force as prisoners of war, and posthumously to the next of kin of members of the Armed Forces who are killed in conflict with an enemy force or who die of a wound received in conflict with an enemy force;

Whereas the Purple Heart was established on August 7, 1782, during the Revolutionary War, when General George Washington issued an order establishing the Honorary Badge of Distinction, otherwise known as the Badge of Military Merit;

Whereas the award of the Purple Heart ceased with the end of the Revolutionary War, but was revived in 1932, the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth, out of respect for his memory and military achievements; and

Whereas National Purple Heart Recognition Day is a fitting tribute to George Washington and to the more than 1,535,000 recipients of the Purple Heart, approximately 550,000 of whom are still living: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Purple Heart Recognition Day;

(2) encourages all people of the United States to learn about the history of the Purple Heart and to honor its recipients; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to conduct appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate support for people who have been awarded the Purple Heart.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 113—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY DIAGNOSIS, PROPER TREATMENT, AND ENHANCED PUBLIC AWARENESS OF TOURETTE SYNDROME AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL TOURETTE SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 113

Whereas Tourette Syndrome is an inherited neurological disorder characterized by involuntary and sudden movements or repeated vocalizations;

Whereas approximately 200,000 people in the United States have been diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome and many thousands more remain undiagnosed;

Whereas lack of public awareness has increased the social stigma attached to Tourette Syndrome;

Whereas early diagnosis and treatment of Tourette Syndrome can prevent physical and psychological harm;

Whereas there is no known cure for Tourette Syndrome and treatment involves multiple medications and therapies with costs that can be prohibitive;

Whereas the Tourette Syndrome Association is the only national nonprofit membership organization dedicated to identifying the cause, finding the cure, and controlling the effects of Tourette Syndrome; and

Whereas the Tourette Syndrome Association has designated May 15 through June 15 as National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month, the goal of which is to educate the public about the nature and effects of Tourette Syndrome: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) recognizes the impact that Tourette Syndrome can have on people living with the disorder;

(2) recognizes the importance of an early diagnosis and proper treatment of Tourette Syndrome;

(3) recognizes the need for enhanced public awareness of Tourette Syndrome;

(4) supports the goals and ideals of National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month, as designated by the Tourette Syndrome Association; and

(5) encourages the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States and interested organizations to observe National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution recognizing National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month. This resolution recognizes the importance of an early and accurate diagnosis, proper treatment for Tourette Syndrome and is intended to raise public awareness about the disorder. I am pleased to be joined today by my colleague from Illinois, Senator DURBIN, in offering this resolution.

Tourette Syndrome, or TS, is an inherited, neurobiological disorder that affects children of all racial and ethnic groups. The symptoms of TS are rapid, repeated, involuntary movements, and sounds called tics. In a large percentage of cases, TS is accompanied by other disorders, the most common of which are Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and nonverbal Learning Disabilities.

An estimated 200,000 Americans have substantially impairing TS and many more have milder symptoms of the disorder. Many endure the stigma, isolation, and psychological impact associated with this chronic disorder. There is, unfortunately, no cure for TS, although some individuals benefit from a reduction in symptoms from medication or other clinical treatments.

In my State of Oregon, approximately 600 individuals are affected by Tourette Syndrome. While the Oregon chapter of the Tourette Syndrome Association, TSA, serves as an outstanding resource for information, it constantly faces the challenge of fulfilling its mission in a large, mostly rural State. TSA of Oregon currently operates a support group in the Portland area, and it is emerging as a useful source for families and provides leadership within the community. I would like to commend TSA of Oregon and thank them for their outstanding work.

Designating the month of June as the National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month gives everyone an opportunity to familiarize themselves with TS and to better understand the impact that TS has on people living with the disorder. Additionally, it recognizes the importance of early diagnosis and receiving proper treatment. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3239. Mr. SANTORUM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3240. Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. LEVIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2400, supra.

SA 3241. Mr. LEVIN (for Mr. NELSON, OF NEBRASKA) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2400, supra.

SA 3242. Mr. WARNER (for Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. FITZGERALD, and Mr. SESSIONS)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2400, supra.

SA 3243. Mr. LEVIN (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2400, supra.

SA 3244. Mr. BENNETT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3245. Mr. BOND (for himself and Mrs. DOLE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3246. Ms. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2400, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3247. Ms. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2400, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3248. Ms. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2400, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3249. Mr. HAGEL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3250. Mr. HAGEL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3239. Mr. SANTORUM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 19, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

SEC. 113. FOUR-YEAR AUTHORITY FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY TO USE SALES PROCEEDS TO PROCURE CERTAIN ITEMS.

(a) EXCHANGE AND SALE AGREEMENT.—(1) The Secretary of the Army may enter into an agreement to procure M109-based command-and-control vehicles or field artillery ammunition support vehicles using the sale proceeds of long-supply M109 howitzers.

(2) Section 503 of title 40, United States Code, and the regulations issued under subsection (b) of such section, shall apply to the exercise of the authority under paragraph (1), except for the following requirements:

(A) The requirement for the exchanged items to be similar.

(B) The one-for-one item replacement requirement.

(b) PERIOD OF AUTHORITY.—The authority to enter into agreements under subsection (a) and to make purchases under any such agreement is effective for sales made during the four-year period beginning on October 1, 2004, and ending at the end of September 31, 2008.

SA 3240. Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. LEVIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; as follows:

Beginning on page 105, strike line 21 and all that follows through page 106, line 2.

SA 3241. Mr. LEVIN (for Mr. NELSON of Nebraska) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title II, add the following:

SEC. 217. NEUROTOXIN MITIGATION RESEARCH.

(a) INCREASE IN AMOUNT FOR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(4) for research, development, test, and evaluation, Defense-wide activities, is hereby increased by $2,000,000.

(b) AVAILABILITY FOR NEUROTOXIN MITIGATION RESEARCH.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(4) for research, development, test, and evaluation, Defense-wide activities, as increased by subsection (a), $2,000,000 may be available in Program Element PE 62384BP for neurotoxin mitigation research.

(c) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by section 301(1) for operation and maintenance for the Army is hereby reduced by $2,000,000, with the amount of the reduction to be allocated to Satellite Communications Language training activity (SCOLA) at the Army Defense Language Institute.

SA 3242. Mr. WARNER (for Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. FITZGERALD, and Mr. SESSIONS)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 58, after line 24, insert the following:

SEC. 364. CONSOLIDATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF AUTHORITIES FOR ARMY WORKING-CAPITAL FUNDED FACILITIES TO ENGAGE IN PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.

(a) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AUTHORIZED.—Chapter 433 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 4544. Army industrial facilities: public-private partnerships

''(a) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AUTHORIZED.—A working-capital funded Army industrial facility may enter into cooperative arrangements with non-Army entities to carry out military or commercial projects with the non-Army entities. A cooperative arrangement under this section shall be known as a 'public-private partnership'.

''(b) AUTHORIZED PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES.—A public-private partnership entered into by an Army industrial facility may provide for any of the following activities:

''(1) The sale of articles manufactured by the facility or services performed by the facility to persons outside the Department of Defense.

''(2) The performance of—

''(A) work by a non-Army entity at the facility; or

''(B) work for a non-Army entity by the facility.

''(3) The sharing of work by the facility and one or more non-Army entities.

''(4) The leasing, or use under a facilities use contract or otherwise, of the facility (including excess capacity) or equipment (including excess equipment) of the facility by a non-Army entity.

''(5) The preparation and submission of joint offers by the facility and one or more non-Army entities for competitive procurements entered into with a department or agency of the United States.

''(c) CONDITIONS FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.—An activity described in subsection (b) may be carried out as a public-private partnership at an Army industrial facility only under the following conditions:

''(1) In the case of an article to be manufactured or services to be performed by the facility, the articles can be substantially manufactured, or the services can be substantially performed, by the facility without subcontracting for more than incidental performance.

''(2) The activity does not interfere with performance of—

''(A) work by the facility for the Department of Defense; or

''(B) a military mission of the facility.

''(3) The activity meets one of the following objectives:

''(A) Maximize utilization of the capacity of the facility.

''(B) Reduction or elimination of the cost of ownership of the facility.

''(C) Reduction in the cost of manufacturing or maintaining Department of Defense products at the facility.

''(D) Preservation of skills or equipment related to a core competency of the facility.

''(4) The non-Army entity partner or purchaser agrees to hold harmless and indemnify the United States from any liability or claim for damages or injury to any person or property arising out of the activity, including any damages or injury arising out of a decision by the Secretary of the Army or the Secretary of Defense to suspend or terminate an activity, or any portion thereof, during a war or national emergency or to require the facility to perform other work or provide other services on a priority basis, except—

''(A) in any case of willful misconduct or gross negligence; and

''(B) in the case of a claim by a purchaser of articles or services under this section that damages or injury arose from the failure of the Government to comply with quality, schedule, or cost performance requirements in the contract to carry out the activity.

''(d) METHODS OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.—To conduct an activity of a public-private partnership under this section, the approval authority described in subsection (f) for an Army industrial facility may, in the exercise of good business judgment—

''(1) enter into a firm, fixed-price contract (or, if agreed to by the purchaser, a cost reimbursement contract) for a sale of articles or services or use of equipment or facilities;

''(2) enter into a multiyear partnership contract for a period not to exceed five years, unless a longer period is specifically authorized by law;

''(3) charge a partner the amounts necessary to recover the full costs of the articles or services provided, including capital improvement costs, and equipment depreciation costs associated with providing the articles, services, equipment, or facilities;

''(4) authorize a partner to use incremental funding to pay for the articles, services, or use of equipment or facilities; and

''(5) accept payment-in-kind.

''(e) DEPOSIT OF PROCEEDS.—(1) The proceeds of sales of articles and services received in connection with the use of an Army industrial facility under this section shall be credited to the appropriation or working-capital fund that incurs the variable costs of manufacturing the articles or performing the services. Notwithstanding section 3302(b) of title 31, the amount so credited with respect to an Army industrial facility shall be available, without further appropriation, as follows:

''(A) Amounts equal to the amounts of the variable costs so incurred shall be available for the same purposes as the appropriation or working-capital fund to which credited.

''(B) Amounts in excess of the amounts of the variable costs so incurred shall be available for operations, maintenance, and environmental restoration at that Army industrial facility.

''(2) Amounts credited to a working-capital fund under paragraph (1) shall remain available until expended. Amounts credited to an appropriation under paragraph (1) shall remain available for the same period as the appropriation to which credited.

''(f) APPROVAL OF SALES.—The authority of an Army industrial facility to conduct a public-private partnership under this section shall be exercised at the level of the commander of the major subordinate command of the Army that has responsibility for the facility. The commander may approve such partnership on a case basis or a class basis.

''(g) COMMERCIAL SALES.—Except in the case of work performed for the Department of Defense, for a contract of the Department of Defense, for foreign military sales, or for authorized foreign direct commercial sales (defense articles or defense services sold to a foreign government or international organization under export controls), a sale of articles or services may be made under this section only if the approval authority described in subsection (f) determines that the articles or services are not available from a commercial source located in the United States in the required quantity or quality, or within the time required.

''(h) EXCLUSION FROM DEPOT-LEVEL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR PERCENTAGE LIMITATION.—Amounts expended for depot-level maintenance and repair workload by non-Federal personnel at an Army industrial facility shall not be counted for purposes of applying the percentage limitation in section 2466(a) of this title if the personnel are provided by a non-Army entity pursuant to a public-private partnership established under this section.

''(i) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the application of—

''(1) foreign military sales and the export controls provided for in sections 30 and 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2770 and 2778) to activities of a public-private partnership under this section; and

''(2) section 2667 of this title to leases of non-excess property in the administration of a public-private partnership under this section.

''(j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) The term 'Army industrial facility' includes an ammunition plant, an arsenal, a depot, and a manufacturing plant.

''(2) The term 'non-Army entity' includes the following:

''(A) An executive agency.

''(B) An entity in industry or commercial sales.

''(C) A State or political subdivision of a State.

''(D) An institution of higher education or vocational training institution.

''(3) The term 'incremental funding' means a series of partial payments that—

''(A) are made as the work on manufacture or articles is being performed or services are being performed or equipment or facilities are used, as the case may be; and

''(B) result in full payment being completed as the required work is being completed.

''(4) The term 'full costs', with respect to articles or services provided under this section, means the variable costs and the fixed costs that are directly related to the production of the articles or the provision of the services.

''(5) The term 'variable costs' means the costs that are expected to fluctuate directly with the volume of sales or services provided or the use of equipment or facilities.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is

amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''4544. Army industrial facilities: public-private partnerships.''.

SA 3243. Mr. LEVIN (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 365, between lines 18 and 19, insert the following:

SEC. 2830. LAND CONVEYANCE, MARCH AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA.

(a) CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of the Air Force may convey to the March Joint Powers Authority (in this section referred to as the ''MJPA'') all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a parcel of real property, including any improvements thereon, consisting of approximately 15 acres located in Riverside County, California, and containing the former Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office facility for March Air Force Base, which is also known as Parcel A–6, for the purpose of economic development and revitalization.

(b) CONSIDERATION.—(1) As consideration for the conveyance of property under subsection (a), the MJPA shall pay the United States an amount equal to the fair market value, as determined by the Secretary, of the property to be conveyed under such subsection.

(2) The consideration received under this subsection shall be deposited in the special account in the Treasury established under section 572(b) of title 40, United States Code, and available in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (5)(B)(ii).

(c) DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.—The exact acreage and legal description of the real property to be conveyed under subsection (a) shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary. The cost of the survey shall be borne by the MJPA.

(d) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance under subsection (a) as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

SA 3239. Mr. BENNETT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 411, after line 6, add the following:

SEC. 3303. PROHIBITION ON STORAGE OF MERCURY AT PRIVATELY OWNED OR OPERATED FACILITIES.

(a) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary of Defense may not store mercury from the National Defense Stockpile at any facility that is not owned and operated by the United States.

(b) NATIONAL DEFENSE STOCKPILE DEFINED.—In this section , the term ''National Defense Stockpile'' means the stockpile provided for in section 4 of the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act (50 U.S.C. 98c).

SA 3245. Mr. BOND (for himself and Mrs. DOLE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered tolie on the table; as follows:

On page 247, between lines 13 and 14, insert the following:

SEC. 1022. OPERATION OF THE FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND THE MILITARY POSTAL SYSTEM.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR REPORTS.—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress two reports on the actions that the Secretary has taken to ensure that—

(A) the Federal Voting Assistance Program functions effectively to support absentee voting by members of the Armed Forces deployed outside the United States in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom, and all other contingency operations; and

(B) the military postal system functions effectively to support the morale of the personnel described in subparagraph (A) and absentee voting by such members.

(2)(A) The first report under paragraph (1) shall be submitted not later than August 1, 2004.

(B) The second report under paragraph (1) shall be submitted not later than October 1, 2004.

(3) In this subsection, the term ''Federal Voting Assistance Program'' means the program referred to in section 1566(b)(1) of title 10, United States Code.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDED POSTAL SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall—

(1) implement the recommendations for improvement of the military postal system that were made in 2000 by the Military Postal Service Agency Task Force established by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Army in 1998; or

(2) submit to Congress a report setting forth the actions taken to implement those recommendations together with, in the case of each recommendation not implemented or not fully implemented before the date of report, the reasons for not implementing or not fully implementing such recommendation, as the case may be.

SA 3246. Mr. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. ___. MENTOR-PROTEGE PILOT PROGRAM.

Section 831(m)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991 (Public Law 101–510; 10 U.S.C. 2302 note) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(F) a small business concern owned and controlled by service–disabled veterans (as defined in section 8(d)(3) of the Small Business Act); and

''(G) a qualified HUBZone small business concern (as defined in section 3(p) of the Small Business Act).''.

SA 3247. Mr. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 166, at the beginning of line 4, insert the following:

(a) PROCESS AND STANDARDS FOR MEASURING PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall develop and implement a process and standards for measuring the effectiveness of the test program for negotiation of comprehensive small business subcontracting plans carried out under section 834 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991 (Public Law 101–189; 15 U.S.C. 637 note). The Secretary shall consult with the Comptroller General in developing the standards.

(b) NOTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE.—Not later than 300 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense and the Comptroller General shall notify Congress regarding whether the deadline in subsection (a) was met.

(c) LIMITATION ON ADDITIONAL PRIME CONTRACTORS AS PARTICIPANTS.—A prime contractor not participating in the test program as of the date of enactment of this Act may not participate in the test program until the Secretary of Defense develops and implements the process and standards for measuring the effectiveness of the test program required under subsection (a).

(d) MONITORING.—The Comptroller General shall monitor the administration of the test program and, not later than three years after the date of the enactment of this Act, submit to Congress a report on the effectiveness of the program.

(e) EXTENSION OF PROGRAM.—

SA 3248. Mr. SNOWE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 811.

SA 3249. Mr. HAGEL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year

for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1068. NATIONAL AIRBORNE DAY.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate makes the following findings:

(1) The airborne forces of the United States Armed Forces have a long and honorable history as units of adventuresome, hardy, and fierce warriors who, for the national security of the United States and the defense of freedom and peace, project the effective ground combat power of the United States by Air Force air transport to the far reaches of the battle area and, indeed, to the far corners of the world.

(2) August 16, 2004, marks the anniversary of the first official validation of the innovative concept of inserting United States ground combat forces behind the battle line by means of a parachute.

(3) The United States experiment of airborne infantry attack began on June 25, 1940, when the Army Parachute Test Platoon was first authorized by the United States Department of War, and was launched when 48 volunteers began training in July 1940.

(4) The Parachute Test Platoon performed the first official Army parachute jump on August 16, 1940.

(5) The success of the Parachute Test Platoon in the days immediately preceding the entry of the United States into World War II led to the formation of a formidable force of airborne units that, since then, have served with distinction and repeated success in armed hostilities.

(6) Among those units are the former 11th, 13th, and 17th Airborne Divisions, the venerable 82nd Airborne Division, the versatile 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), and the airborne regiments and battalions (some as components of those divisions, some as separate units) that achieved distinction as the elite 75th Ranger Regiment, the 173rd Airborne Brigade, the 187th Infantry (Airborne) Regiment, the 503rd, 507th, 508th, 517th, 541st, and 542nd Parachute Infantry Regiments, the 88th Glider Infantry Regiment, the 509th, 551st, and 555th Parachute Infantry Batallions, and the 550th Airborne Infantry Battalion.

(7) The achievements of the airborne forces during World War II provided a basis of evolution into a diversified force of parachute and air assault units that, over the years, have fought in Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf Region, and Somalia, and have engaged in peacekeeping operations in Lebanon, the Sinai Peninsula, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Bosnia, and Kosovo.

(8) The modern-day airborne force that has evolved from those World War II beginnings is an agile, powerful force that, in large part, is composed of the 82nd Airborne Division, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), and the 75th Ranger Regiment which, together with other units, comprise the quick reaction force of the XVIII Airborne Corps of the Army when not operating separately under a regional combatant commander.

(9) The modern-day airborne force also includes other elite forces composed entirely of airborne trained and qualified special operations warriors, including Army Special Forces, Marine Corps Force Reconnaissance units, Navy SEALs, and Air Force combat control teams, all or most of which comprise the forces of the United States Special Operations Command.

(10) In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, the 75th Ranger Regiment, special forces units, and units of the 82nd Airborne Division and the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), together with other units of the Armed Forces, have been prosecuting the war against terrorism by carrying out combat operations in Afghanistan, training operations in the Philippines, and other operations elsewhere.

(11) In the aftermath of the President's announcement of Operation Iraqi Freedom in March 2003, the 75th Ranger Regiment, special forces units, and units of the 82nd Airborne Division, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), and the 173rd Airborne Brigade, together with other units of the Armed Forces, have been prosecuting the war against terrorism, carrying out combat operations, conducting civil affair missions, and assisting in establishing democracy in Iraq.

(12) The airborne forces are and will continue to be at the ready and the forefront until the Global War on Terrorism is concluded.

(13) The members and former members of the United States combat airborne forces, all have achieved distinction by earning the right to wear the airborne's ''Silver Wings of Courage'', thousands have achieved the distinction of making combat jumps, 69 have earned the Medal of Honor, and hundreds have earned the Distinguished-Service Cross, Silver Star, or other decorations and awards for displays of such traits as heroism, gallantry, intrepidity, and valor.

(14) The members and former members of the United States combat airborne forces are members of a proud and honorable fraternity of the profession of arms that is made exclusive by those distinctions which, together with their special skills and achievements, distinguish them as intrepid combat parachutists, special operations forces, and (in former days) glider troops.

(15) The history and achievements of the members and former members of the airborne forces of the United States Armed Forces warrant special expressions of the gratitude of the American people as the airborne community celebrates August 16, 2004, as the 64th anniversary of the first official jump by the Army Parachute Test Platoon.

(b) SENSE OF SENATE.—The Senate—

(1) designates August 16, 2004, as ''National Airborne Day''; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on Federal, State, and local administrators and the people of the United States to observe ''National Airborne Day'' with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

SA 3250. Mr. HAGEL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1068. NATIONAL AIRBORNE DAY.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate makes the following findings:

(1) The airborne forces of the United States Armed Forces have a long and honorable history as units of adventuresome, hardy, and fierce warriors who, for the national security of the United States and the defense of freedom and peace, project the effective ground combat power of the United States by Air Force air transport to the far reaches of the battle area and, indeed, to the far corners of the world.

(2) August 16, 2004, marks the anniversary of the first official validation of the innovative concept of inserting United States ground combat forces behind the battle line by means of a parachute.

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(6) Among those units are the former 11th, 13th, and 17th Airborne Divisions, the venerable 82nd Airborne Division, the versatile 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), and the airborne regiments and battalions (some as components of those divisions, some as separate units) that achieved distinction as the elite 75th Ranger Regiment, the 173rd Airborne Brigade, the 187th Infantry (Airborne) Regiment, the 503rd, 507th, 508th, 517th, 541st, and 542nd Parachute Infantry Regiments, the 88th Glider Infantry Regiment, the 509th, 551st, and 555th Parachute Infantry Batallions, and the 550th Airborne Infantry Battalion.

(7) The achievements of the airborne forces during World War II provided a basis of evolution into a diversified force of parachute and air assault units that, over the years, have fought in Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf Region, and Somalia, and have engaged in peacekeeping operations in Lebanon, the Sinai Peninsula, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Bosnia, and Kosovo.

(8) The modern-day airborne force that has evolved from those World War II beginnings is an agile, powerful force that, in large part, is composed of the 82nd Airborne Division, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), and the 75th Ranger Regiment which, together with other units, comprise the quick reaction force of the XVIII Airborne Corps of the Army when not operating separately under a regional combatant commander.

(9) The modern-day airborne force also includes other elite forces composed entirely of airborne trained and qualified special operations warriors, including Army Special Forces, Marine Corps Force Reconnaissance units, Navy SEALs, and Air Force combat control teams, all or most of which comprise the forces of the United States Special Operations Command.

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(11) In the aftermath of the President's announcement of Operation Iraqi Freedom in March 2003, the 75th Ranger Regiment, special forces units, and units of the 82nd Airborne Division, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), and the 173rd Airborne Brigade, together with other units of the Armed Forces, have been prosecuting the war against terrorism, carrying out combat operations, conducting civil affair missions, and assisting in establishing democracy in Iraq.

(12) The airborne forces are and will continue to be at the ready and the forefront until the Global War on Terrorism is concluded.

(13) The members and former members of the United States combat airborne forces, all have achieved distinction by earning the right to wear the airborne's ''Silver Wings of Courage'', thousands have achieved the distinction of making combat jumps, 69 have earned the Medal of Honor, and hundreds have earned the Distinguished-Service Cross, Silver Star, or other decorations and awards for displays of such traits as heroism, gallantry, intrepidity, and valor.

(14) The members and former members of the United States combat airborne forces are members of a proud and honorable fraternity of the profession of arms that is made exclusive by those distinctions which, together with their special skills and achievements, distinguish them as intrepid combat parachutists, special operations forces, and (in former days) glider troops.

(15) The history and achievements of the members and former members of the airborne forces of the United States Armed Forces warrant special expressions of the gratitude of the American people as the airborne community celebrates August 16, 2004, as the 64th anniversary of the first official jump by the Army Parachute Test Platoon.

(b) SENSE OF SENATE.—The Senate—

(1) designates August 16, 2004, as ''National Airborne Day''; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on Federal, State, and local administrators and the people of the United States to observe ''National Airborne Day'' with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Rob Brown, a legislative fellow in my office, have floor privileges for the duration of consideration Senate bill 2004.

SAFE, ACCOUNTABLE, FLEXIBLE, AND EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT OF 2005

On Wednesday, May 19, 2004, the Senate passed H.R. 3550, as follows:

Resolved, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 3550) entitled ''An Act to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.'', do pass with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. General definitions.
Sec. 3. Definitions for title 23.

TITLE I—FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

Subtitle A—Funding

Sec. 1101. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 1102. Obligation ceiling.
Sec. 1103. Apportionments.
Sec. 1104. Equity bonus programs.
Sec. 1105. Revenue aligned budget authority.

Subtitle B—New Programs

Sec. 1201. Infrastructure performance and maintenance program.
Sec. 1202. Future of surface transportation system.
Sec. 1203. Freight transportation gateways; freight intermodal connections.
Sec. 1204. Construction of ferry boats and ferry terminal and maintenance facilities; coordination of ferry construction and maintenance.
Sec. 1205. Designation of Daniel Patrick Moynihan Interstate Highway.
Sec. 1206. State-by-State comparison of highway construction costs.

Subtitle C—Finance

Sec. 1301. Federal share.
Sec. 1302. Transfer of highway and transit funds.
Sec. 1303. Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Amendments.
Sec. 1304. Facilitation of international registration plans and international fuel tax agreements.
Sec. 1305. National Commission on Future Revenue Sources to Support the Highway Trust Fund and Finance the Needs of the Surface Transportation System.
Sec. 1306. State infrastructure banks.
Sec. 1307. Public-private partnerships pilot program.
Sec. 1308. Wagering.

Subtitle D—Safety

Sec. 1401. Highway safety improvement program.
Sec. 1402. Operation lifesaver.
Sec. 1403. License suspension.
Sec. 1404. Bus axle weight exemption.
Sec. 1405. Safe routes to schools program.
Sec. 1406. Purchases of equipment.
Sec. 1407. Workzone safety.
Sec. 1408. Worker injury prevention and free flow of vehicular traffic.
Sec. 1409. Identity authentication standards.
Sec. 1410. Open container requirements.

Subtitle E—Environmental Planning and Review

CHAPTER 1—TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Sec. 1501. Integration of natural resource concerns into State and metropolitan transportation planning.
Sec. 1502. Consultation between transportation agencies and resource agencies in transportation planning.
Sec. 1503. Integration of natural resource concerns into transportation project planning.
Sec. 1504. Public involvement in transportation planning and projects.
Sec. 1505. Project mitigation.

CHAPTER 2—TRANSPORTATION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Sec. 1511. Transportation project development process.
Sec. 1512. Assumption of responsibility for categorical exclusions.
Sec. 1513. Surface transportation project delivery pilot program.
Sec. 1514. Parks, recreation areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites.
Sec. 1515. Regulations.

CHAPTER 3—MISCELLANEOUS

Sec. 1521. Critical real property acquisition.
Sec. 1522. Planning capacity building initiative.

Subtitle F—Environment

Sec. 1601. Environmental restoration and pollution abatement; control of invasive plant species and establishment of native species.
Sec. 1602. National scenic byways program.
Sec. 1603. Recreational trails program.
Sec. 1604. Exemption of Interstate System.
Sec. 1605. Standards.
Sec. 1606. Use of high occupancy vehicle lanes.
Sec. 1607. Bicycle transportation and pedestrian walkways.
Sec. 1608. Idling reduction facilities in Interstate rights-of-way.
Sec. 1609. Toll programs.
Sec. 1610. Federal reference method.
Sec. 1611. Addition of particulate matter areas to CMAQ.
Sec. 1612. Addition to CMAQ-eligible projects.
Sec. 1613. Improved interagency consultation.
Sec. 1614. Evaluation and assessment of CMAQ projects.
Sec. 1615. Synchronized planning and conformity timelines, requirements, and horizon.
Sec. 1616. Transition to new air quality standards.
Sec. 1617. Reduced barriers to air quality improvements.
Sec. 1618. Air quality monitoring data influenced by exceptional events.
Sec. 1619. Conforming amendments.
Sec. 1620. Highway stormwater discharge mitigation program.
Sec. 1621. Exemption from certain hazardous materials transportation requirements.
Sec. 1622. Funds for rebuilding fish stocks.

Subtitle G—Operations

Sec. 1701. Transportation systems management and operations.
Sec. 1702. Real-time system management information program.
Sec. 1703. Contracting for engineering and design services.
Sec. 1704. Off-duty time for drivers of commercial vehicles.
Sec. 1705. Designation of transportation management areas.

Subtitle H—Federal-Aid Stewardship

Sec. 1801. Future Interstate System routes.
Sec. 1802. Stewardship and oversight.
Sec. 1803. Design-build contracting.
Sec. 1804. Program efficiencies—finance.
Sec. 1805. Set-asides for interstate discretionary projects.
Sec. 1806. Federal lands highways program.
Sec. 1807. Highway bridge program.
Sec. 1808. Appalachian development highway system.
Sec. 1809. Multistate corridor program.
Sec. 1810. Border planning, operations, technology, and capacity program.
Sec. 1811. Puerto Rico highway program.
Sec. 1812. National historic covered bridge preservation.
Sec. 1813. Transportation and community and system preservation program.
Sec. 1814. Parking pilot programs.
Sec. 1815. Interstate oasis program.
Sec. 1816. Tribal-State road maintenance agreements.
Sec. 1817. National forest system roads.
Sec. 1818. Territorial highway program.
Sec. 1819. Magnetic levitation transportation technology deployment program.
Sec. 1820. Donations and credits.
Sec. 1821. Disadvantaged business enterprises.
Sec. 1822. Emergency relief.
Sec. 1823. Priority for pedestrian and bicycle facility enhancement projects.
Sec. 1824. The Delta Regional Authority.
Sec. 1825. Multistate international corridor development program.
Sec. 1826. Authorization of contract authority for States with Indian Reservations.

Subtitle I—Technical Corrections

Sec. 1901. Repeal or update of obsolete text.
Sec. 1902. Clarification of date.
Sec. 1903. Inclusion of requirements for signs identifying funding sources in title 23.
Sec. 1904. Inclusion of Buy America requirements in title 23.
Sec. 1905. Technical amendments to nondiscrimination section.

TITLE II—TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH
Subtitle A—Funding
Sec. 2001. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 2002. Obligation ceiling.
Sec. 2003. Notice.
Subtitle B—Research and Technology
Sec. 2101. Research and technology program.
Sec. 2102. Study of data collection and statistical analysis efforts.
Sec. 2103. Centers for surface transportation excellence.
Sec. 2104. Motorcycle crash causation study grants.
Sec. 2105. Transportation technology innovation and demonstration program
Subtitle C—Intelligent Transportation System Research
Sec. 2201. Intelligent transportation system research and technical assistance program.
TITLE III—PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
Sec. 3001. Short title.
Sec. 3002. Amendments to title 49, United States Code; updated terminology.
Sec. 3003. Policies, findings, and purposes.
Sec. 3004. Definitions.
Sec. 3005. Metropolitan transportation planning.
Sec. 3006. Statewide transportation planning.
Sec. 3007. Transportation management areas.
Sec. 3008. Private enterprise participation.
Sec. 3009. Urbanized area formula grants.
Sec. 3010. Planning programs.
Sec. 3011. Capital investment program.
Sec. 3012. New freedom for elderly persons and persons with disabilities.
Sec. 3013. Formula grants for other than urbanized areas.
Sec. 3014. Research, development, demonstration, and deployment projects.
Sec. 3015. Transit cooperative research program.
Sec. 3016. National research programs.
Sec. 3017. National transit institute.
Sec. 3018. Bus testing facility.
Sec. 3019. Bicycle facilities.
Sec. 3020. Suspended light rail technology pilot project.
Sec. 3021. Crime prevention and security.
Sec. 3022. General provisions on assistance.
Sec. 3023. Special provisions for capital projects.
Sec. 3024. Contract requirements.
Sec. 3025. Project management oversight and review.
Sec. 3026. Project review.
Sec. 3027. Investigations of safety and security risk.
Sec. 3028. State safety oversight.
Sec. 3029. Sensitive security information.
Sec. 3030. Terrorist attacks and other acts of violence against public transportation systems.
Sec. 3031. Controlled substances and alcohol misuse testing.
Sec. 3032. Employee protective arrangements.
Sec. 3033. Administrative procedures.
Sec. 3034. Reports and audits.
Sec. 3035. Apportionments of appropriations for formula grants.
Sec. 3036. Apportionments for fixed guideway modernization.
Sec. 3037. Authorizations.
Sec. 3038. Apportionments based on growing States formula factors.
Sec. 3039. Job access and reverse commute grants.
Sec. 3040. Over-the-road bus accessibility program.
Sec. 3041. Alternative transportation in parks and public lands.
Sec. 3042. Obligation ceiling.
Sec. 3043. Adjustments for the Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2003.
Sec. 3044. Disadvantaged business enterprise.
Sec. 3045. Intermodal passenger facilities.
TITLE IV—SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SAFETY
Sec. 4001. Short title.
Subtitle A—Highway Safety
PART I—HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM
Sec. 4101. Short title; amendment of title 23, United States Code.
Sec. 4102. Authorization of appropriations.
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SEC. 2. GENERAL DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) DEPARTMENT.—The term ''Department'' means the Department of Transportation.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Transportation.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS FOR TITLE 23.

Section 101 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this title:

''(1) APPORTIONMENT.—The term 'apportionment' includes an unexpended apportionment made under a law enacted before the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004.

''(2) CARPOOL PROJECT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'carpool project' means any project to encourage the use of carpools and vanpools.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'carpool project' includes a project—

''(i) to provide carpooling opportunities to the elderly and individuals with disabilities;

''(ii) to develop and implement a system for locating potential riders and informing the riders of carpool opportunities;

''(iii) to acquire vehicles for carpool use;

''(iv) to designate highway lanes as preferential carpool highway lanes;

''(v) to provide carpool-related traffic control devices; and

''(vi) to designate facilities for use for preferential parking for carpools.

''(3) CONSTRUCTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'construction' means the supervision, inspection, and actual building of, and incurring of all costs incidental to the construction or reconstruction of a highway, including bond costs and other costs relating to the issuance in accordance with section 122 of bonds or other debt financing instruments and costs incurred by the State in performing Federal-aid project related audits that directly benefit the Federal-aid highway program.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'construction' includes—

''(i) locating, surveying, and mapping (including the establishment of temporary and permanent geodetic markers in accordance with specifications of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration);

''(ii) resurfacing, restoration, and rehabilitation;

''(iii) acquisition of rights-of-way;

''(iv) relocation assistance, acquisition of replacement housing sites, and acquisition and rehabilitation, relocation, and construction of replacement housing;

''(v) elimination of hazards of railway grade crossings;

''(vi) elimination of roadside obstacles;

''(vii) improvements that directly facilitate and control traffic flow, such as—

''(I) grade separation of intersections;

''(II) widening of lanes;

''(III) channelization of traffic;

''(IV) traffic control systems; and

''(V) passenger loading and unloading areas;

''(viii) capital improvements that directly facilitate an effective vehicle weight enforcement program, such as—

''(I) scales (fixed and portable);

''(II) scale pits;

''(III) scale installation; and

''(IV) scale houses;

''(ix) improvements directly relating to securing transportation infrastructures for detection, preparedness, response, and recovery;

''(x) operating costs relating to traffic monitoring, management, and control;

''(xi) operational improvements; and

''(xii) transportation system management and operations.

''(4) COUNTY.—The term 'county' includes—

''(A) a corresponding unit of government under any other name in a State that does not have county organizations; and

''(B) in those States in which the county government does not have jurisdiction over highways, any local government unit vested with jurisdiction over local highways.

''(5) FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'Federal-aid highway' means a highway eligible for assistance under this chapter.

''(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term 'Federal-aid highway' does not include a highway classified as a local road or rural minor collector.

''(6) FEDERAL-AID SYSTEM.—The term 'Federal-aid system' means any of the Federal-aid highway systems described in section 103.

''(7) FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY.—The term 'Federal lands highway' means—

''(A) a forest highway;

''(B) a recreation road;

''(C) a public Forest Service road;

''(D) a park road;

''(E) a parkway;

''(F) a refuge road;

''(G) an Indian reservation road; and

''(H) a public lands highway.

''(8) FOREST HIGHWAY.—The term 'forest highway' means a forest road that is—

''(A) under the jurisdiction of, and maintained by, a public authority; and

''(B) is open to public travel.

''(9) FOREST ROAD OR TRAIL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'forest road or trail' means a road or trail wholly or partly within, or adjacent to, and serving National Forest System land that is necessary for the protection, administration, use, and development of the resources of that land.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'forest road or trail' includes—

''(i) a classified forest road;

''(ii) an unclassified forest road;

''(iii) a temporary forest road; and

''(iv) a public forest service road.

''(10) FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION GATEWAY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'freight transportation gateway' means a nationally or regionally significant transportation port of entry or hub for domestic and global trade or military mobilization.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'freight transportation gateway' includes freight intermodal and Strategic Highway Network connections that provide access to and from a port or hub described in subparagraph (A).

''(11) HIGHWAY.—The term 'highway' includes—

''(A) a road, street, and parkway;

''(B) a right-of-way, bridge, railroad-highway crossing, tunnel, drainage structure, sign, guardrail, and protective structure, in connection with a highway; and

''(C) a portion of any interstate or international bridge or tunnel (including the approaches to the interstate or international bridge or tunnel, and such transportation facilities as may be required by the United States Customs Service and the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services in connection with the operation of an international bridge or tunnel), the cost of which is assumed by a State transportation department.

''(12) HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.—The term 'highway safety improvement project' means a project that meets the requirements of section 148.

''(13) INDIAN RESERVATION ROAD.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'Indian reservation road' means a public road that is located within or provides access to an area described in subparagraph (B) on which or in which reside Indians or Alaskan Natives that, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, are eligible for services generally available to Indians under Federal laws specifically applicable to Indians.

''(B) AREAS.—The areas referred to in subparagraph (A) are—

''(i) an Indian reservation;

''(ii) Indian trust land or restricted Indian land that is not subject to fee title alienation without the approval of the Federal Government; and

''(iii) an Indian or Alaska Native village, group, or community.

''(14) INTERSTATE SYSTEM.—The term 'Interstate System' means the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways described in section 103(c).

''(15) MAINTENANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'maintenance' means the preservation of a highway.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'maintenance' includes the preservation of—

''(i) the surface, shoulders, roadsides, and structures of a highway; and

''(ii) such traffic-control devices as are necessary for safe, secure, and efficient use of a highway.

''(16) MAINTENANCE AREA.—The term 'maintenance area' means an area that was designated as a nonattainment area, but was later redesignated by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency as an attainment area, under section 107(d) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7407(d)).

''(17) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM ROAD OR TRAIL.—The term 'National Forest System road or trail' means a forest road or trail that is under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service.

''(18) NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM.—The term 'National Highway System' means the Federal-aid highway system described in section 103(b).

''(19) OPERATING COSTS FOR TRAFFIC MONITORING, MANAGEMENT, AND CONTROL.—The term 'operating costs for traffic monitoring, management, and control' includes—

''(A) labor costs;

''(B) administrative costs;

''(C) costs of utilities and rent;

''(D) costs incurred by transportation agencies for technology to monitor critical transportation infrastructure for security purposes; and

''(E) other costs associated with transportation systems management and operations and the continuous operation of traffic control, such as—

''(i) an integrated traffic control system;

''(ii) an incident management program; and

''(iii) a traffic control center.

''(20) OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'operational improvement' means—

''(i) a capital improvement for installation or implementation of—

''(I) a transportation system management and operations program;

''(II) traffic and transportation security surveillance and control equipment;

''(III) a computerized signal system;

''(IV) a motorist information system;

''(V) an integrated traffic control system;

''(VI) an incident management program;

''(VII) equipment and programs for transportation response to manmade and natural disasters; or

''(VIII) a transportation demand management facility, strategy, or program; and

''(ii) such other capital improvements to a public road as the Secretary may designate by regulation.

''(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term 'operational improvement' does not include—

''(i) a resurfacing, restorative, or rehabilitative improvement;

''(ii) construction of an additional lane, interchange, or grade separation; or

''(iii) construction of a new facility on a new location.

''(21) PARK ROAD.—The term 'park road' means a public road (including a bridge built primarily for pedestrian use, but with capacity for use by emergency vehicles) that is located within, or provides access to, an area in the National Park System with title and maintenance responsibilities vested in the United States.

''(22) PARKWAY.—The term 'parkway' means a parkway authorized by an Act of Congress on land to which title is vested in the United States.

''(23) PROJECT.—The term 'project' means—

''(A)(i) an undertaking to construct a particular portion of a highway; or

''(ii) if the context so implies, a particular portion of a highway so constructed; and

''(B) any other undertaking eligible for assistance under this title.

''(24) PROJECT AGREEMENT.—The term 'project agreement' means the formal instrument to be executed by the Secretary and recipient of funds under this title.

''(25) PUBLIC AUTHORITY.—The term 'public authority' means a Federal, State, county, town, or township, Indian tribe, municipal or other local government or instrumentality with authority to finance, build, operate, or maintain toll or toll-free facilities.

''(26) PUBLIC FOREST SERVICE ROAD.—The term 'public Forest Service road' means a classified forest road—

''(A) that is open to public travel;

''(B) for which title and maintenance responsibility is vested in the Federal Government; and

''(C) that has been designated a public road by the Forest Service.

''(27) PUBLIC LANDS DEVELOPMENT ROADS AND TRAILS.—The term 'public lands development roads and trails' means roads and trails that the Secretary of the Interior determines are of primary importance for the development, protection, administration, and use of public lands and resources under the control of the Secretary of the Interior.

''(28) PUBLIC LANDS HIGHWAY.—The term 'public lands highway' means—

''(A) a forest road that is—

''(i) under the jurisdiction of, and maintained by, a public authority; and

''(ii) open to public travel; and

''(B) any highway through unappropriated or unreserved public land, nontaxable Indian land, or any other Federal reservation (including a main highway through such land or reservation that is on the Federal-aid system) that is—

''(i) under the jurisdiction of, and maintained by, a public authority; and

''(ii) open to public travel.

''(29) PUBLIC ROAD.—The term 'public road' means any road or street that is—

''(A) under the jurisdiction of, and maintained by, a public authority; and

''(B) open to public travel.

''(30) RECREATIONAL ROAD.—The term 'recreational road' means a public road—

''(A) that provides access to a museum, lake, reservoir, visitors center, gateway to a major wilderness area, public use area, or recreational or historic site; and

''(B) for which title is vested in the Federal Government.

''(31) REFUGE ROAD.—The term 'refuge road' means a public road—

''(A) that provides access to or within a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System or a national fish hatchery; and

''(B) for which title and maintenance responsibility is vested in the United States Government.

''(32) RURAL AREA.—The term 'rural area' means an area of a State that is not included in an urban area.

''(33) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Transportation.

''(34) STATE.—The term 'State' means—

''(A) a State;

''(B) the District of Columbia; and

''(C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

''(35) STATE FUNDS.—The term 'State funds' includes funds that are—

''(A) raised under the authority of the State (or any political or other subdivision of a State); and

''(B) made available for expenditure under the direct control of the State transportation department.

''(36) STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT.—The term 'State transportation department' means the department, agency, commission, board, or official of any State charged by the laws of the State with the responsibility for highway construction.

''(37) TERRITORIAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM.—The term 'territorial highway system' means the system of arterial highways, collector roads, and necessary interisland connectors in American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the United States Virgin Islands that have been designated by the appropriate Governor or chief executive officer of a territory, and approved by the Secretary, in accordance with section 215.

''(38) TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY.—The term 'transportation enhancement activity' means, with respect to any project or the area to be served by the project, any of the following activities as the activities relate to surface transportation:

''(A) Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles.

''(B) Provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists.

''(C) Acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites (including historic battlefields).

''(D) Scenic or historic highway programs (including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities).

''(E) Landscaping and other scenic beautification.

''(F) Historic preservation.

''(G) Rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals).

''(H) Preservation of abandoned railway corridors (including the conversion and use of the corridors for pedestrian or bicycle trails).

''(I) Control and removal of outdoor advertising.

''(J) Archaeological planning and research.

''(K) Environmental mitigation—

''(i) to address water pollution due to highway runoff; or

''(ii) reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat connectivity.

''(L) Establishment of transportation museums.

''(39) TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'transportation systems management and operations' means an integrated program to optimize the performance of existing infrastructure through the implementation of multimodal and intermodal, cross-jurisdictional systems, services, and projects designed to preserve capacity and improve security, safety, and reliability of the transportation system.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'transportation systems management and operations' includes—

''(i) regional operations collaboration and coordination activities between transportation and public safety agencies; and

''(ii) improvements to the transportation system such as traffic detection and surveillance, arterial management, freeway management, demand management, work zone management, emergency management, electronic toll collection, automated enforcement, traffic incident management, roadway weather management, traveler information services, commercial vehicle operations, traffic control, freight management, and coordination of highway, rail, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian operations.

''(40) URBAN AREA.—The term 'urban area' means—

''(A) an urbanized area (or, in the case of an urbanized area encompassing more than 1 State, the portion of the urbanized area in each State); and

''(B) an urban place designated by the Bureau of the Census that—

''(i) has a population of 5,000 or more;

''(ii) is not located within any urbanized area; and

''(iii) is located within boundaries that—

''(I) are fixed cooperatively by responsible State and local officials, subject to approval by the Secretary; and

''(II) encompass, at a minimum, the entire urban place designated by the Bureau of the Census (except in the case of cities in the State of Maine and in the State of New Hampshire).

''(41) URBANIZED AREA.—The term 'urbanized area' means an area that—

''(A) has a population of 50,000 or more;

''(B) is designated by the Bureau of the Census; and

''(C) is located within boundaries that—

''(i) are fixed cooperatively by responsible State and local officials, subject to approval by the Secretary; and

''(ii) encompass, at a minimum, the entire urbanized area within a State as designated by the Bureau of the Census.''.

TITLE I—FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

Subtitle A—Funding

SEC. 1101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

The following sums are authorized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account):

(1) INTERSTATE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM.—For the Interstate maintenance program under section 119 of title 23, United States Code—

(A) $5,442,371,792 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $6,425,168,342 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $6,683,176,289 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $6,702,365,186 for fiscal year 2007;
(E) $7,036,621,314 for fiscal year 2008; and
(F) $7,139,130,081 for fiscal year 2009.

(2) NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM.—For the National Highway System under section 103 of that title—

(A) $6,593,922,257 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $7,815,590,130 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $8,125,241,450 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $8,148,531,791 for fiscal year 2007;
(E) $8,554,231,977 for fiscal year 2008; and
(F) $8,678,591,297 for fiscal year 2009.

(3) BRIDGE PROGRAM.—For the bridge program under section 144 of that title—

(A) $4,650,754,076 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $5,507,287,150 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $5,713,860,644 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $5,730,266,418 for fiscal year 2007;
(E) $6,016,042,650 for fiscal year 2008; and
(F) $6,103,714,622 for fiscal year 2009.

(4) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM.—For the surface transportation program under section 133 of that title—

(A) $6,877,178,900 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $8,107,950,527 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $8,417,741,127 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $8,441,910,349 for fiscal year 2007;
(E) $8,862,919,976 for fiscal year 2008; and
(F) $8,992,134,975 for fiscal year 2009.

(5) CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—For the congestion mitigation and air quality improvement program under section 149 of that title—

(A) $1,880,092,073 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $2,192,716,180 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $2,270,239,273 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $2,276,757,639 for fiscal year 2007;
(E) $2,390,302,660 for fiscal year 2008; and
(F) $2,425,236,569 for fiscal year 2009.

(6) HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—For the highway safety improvement program under section 148 of that title—

(A) $1,187,426,572 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $1,325,828,388 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $1,377,448,548 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $1,381,403,511 for fiscal year 2007;
(E) $1,450,295,996 for fiscal year 2008; and
(F) $1,471,607,029 for fiscal year 2009.

(7) APPALACHIAN DEVELOPMENT HIGHWAY SYSTEM PROGRAM.—For the Appalachian development highway system program under section 170 of that title, $590,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(8) RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM.—For the recreational trails program under section 206 of that title, $60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(9) FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAYS PROGRAM.—

(A) INDIAN RESERVATION ROADS.—For Indian reservation roads under section 204 of that title—

(i) $300,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;
(ii) $325,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
(iii) $350,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;
(iv) $375,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
(v) $400,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
(vi) $425,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(B) RECREATION ROADS.—For recreation roads under section 204 of that title, $50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(C) PARK ROADS AND PARKWAYS.—For park roads and parkways under section 204 of that title—

(i) $300,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;
(ii) $310,000,000 for fiscal year 2005; and
(iii) $320,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2009.

(D) REFUGE ROADS.—For refuge roads under section 204 of that title, $30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(E) PUBLIC LANDS HIGHWAYS.—For Federal lands highways under section 204 of that title, $300,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(F) SAFETY.—For safety under section 204 of that title, $40,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(10) MULTISTATE CORRIDOR PROGRAM.—For the multistate corridor program under section 171 of that title—

(A) $112,500,000 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $135,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $157,500,000 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $180,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
(E) $202,500,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
(F) $225,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(11) BORDER PLANNING, OPERATIONS, AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.—For the border planning, operations, and technology program under section 172 of that title—

(A) $112,500,000 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $135,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $157,500,000 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $180,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
(E) $202,500,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
(F) $225,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(12) NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS PROGRAM.—For the national scenic byways program under section 162 of that title—

(A) $34,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $35,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $36,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $37,000,000 for fiscal year 2007; and
(E) $39,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

(13) INFRASTRUCTURE PERFORMANCE AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM.—For carrying out the infrastructure performance and maintenance program under section 139 of that title $2,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.

(14) CONSTRUCTION OF FERRY BOATS AND FERRY TERMINAL FACILITIES.—For construction of ferry boats and ferry terminal facilities under section 147 of that title, $60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(15) COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO HIGHWAY PROGRAM.—For the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico highway program under section 173 of that title—

(A) $140,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $145,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $149,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $154,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
(E) $160,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
(F) $163,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(16) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS PILOT PROGRAM.—For the public-private partnerships pilot program under section 109(c)(3) of that title,

$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(17) DENALI ACCESS SYSTEM.—For the Denali Access System under section 309 of the Denali Commission Act of 1998 (42 U.S.C. 3121 note; Public Law 105–277), $30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(18) DELTA REGION TRANPORTATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.—For planning and construction activities authorized under the Delta Regional Authority, $80,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

SEC. 1102. OBLIGATION CEILING.

(a) GENERAL LIMITATION.—Subject to subsections (g) and (h), and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the obligations for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs shall not exceed—

(1) $33,643,326,300 for fiscal year 2004;

(2) $37,900,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;

(3) $39,100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 and 2007;

(4) $39,400,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

(5) $44,400,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—The limitations under subsection (a) shall not apply to obligations under or for—

(1) section 125 of title 23, United States Code;

(2) section 147 of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978 (23 U.S.C. 144 note; 92 Stat. 2714);

(3) section 9 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1981 (Public Law 97–134; 95 Stat. 1701);

(4) subsections (b) and (j) of section 131 of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982 (Public Law 97–424; 96 Stat. 2119);

(5) subsections (b) and (c) of section 149 of the Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1987 (Public Law 100–17; 101 Stat. 198);

(6) sections 1103 through 1108 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (Public Law 102–240; 105 Stat. 2027);

(7) section 157 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect on June 8, 1998);

(8) section 105 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect for fiscal years 1998 through 2003, but only in an amount equal to $639,000,000 for each of those fiscal years);

(9) Federal-aid highway programs for which obligation authority was made available under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (Public Law 105–178; 112 Stat. 107) or subsequent public laws for multiple years or to remain available until used, but only to the extent that the obligation authority has not lapsed or been used; and

(10) section 105 of title 23, United States Code (but, for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, only in an amount equal to $439,000,000 per fiscal year).

(c) DISTRIBUTION OF OBLIGATION AUTHORITY.—For each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, the Secretary—

(1) shall not distribute obligation authority provided by subsection (a) for the fiscal year for—

(A) amounts authorized for administrative expenses and programs by section 104(a) of title 23, United States Code;

(B) programs funded from the administrative takedown authorized by section 104(a)(1) of title 23, United States Code; and

(C) amounts authorized for the highway use tax evasion program and the Bureau of Transportation Statistics;

(2) shall not distribute an amount of obligation authority provided by subsection (a) that is equal to the unobligated balance of amounts made available from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for Federal-aid highway and highway safety programs for previous fiscal years the funds for which are allocated by the Secretary;

(3) shall determine the ratio that—

(A) the obligation authority provided by subsection (a) for the fiscal year, less the aggregate of amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2); bears to

(B) the total of the sums authorized to be appropriated for the Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs (other than sums authorized to be appropriated for provisions of law described in paragraphs (1) through (9) of subsection (b) and sums authorized to be appropriated for section 105 of title 23, United States Code, equal to the amount referred to in subsection (b)(10) for the fiscal year), less the aggregate of the amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2);

(4) shall distribute the obligation authority provided by subsection (a) less the aggregate amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2), for section 14501 of title 40, United States Code, so that the amount of obligation authority available for that section is equal to the amount determined by multiplying—

(A) the ratio determined under paragraph (3); by

(B) the sums authorized to be appropriated for that section for the fiscal year;

(5) shall distribute among the States the obligation authority provided by subsection (a), less the aggregate amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2), for each of the programs that are allocated by the Secretary under this Act and title 23, United States Code (other than to programs to which paragraph (1) applies), by multiplying—

(A) the ratio determined under paragraph (3); by

(B) the amounts authorized to be appropriated for each such program for the fiscal year; and

(6) shall distribute the obligation authority provided by subsection (a), less the aggregate amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) and the amounts distributed under paragraphs (4) and (5), for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs (other than the amounts apportioned for the equity bonus program, but only to the extent that the amounts apportioned for the equity bonus program for the fiscal year are greater than $439,000,000, and the Appalachian development highway system program) that are apportioned by the Secretary under this Act and title 23, United States Code, in the ratio that—

(A) amounts authorized to be appropriated for the programs that are apportioned to each State for the fiscal year; bear to

(B) the total of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the programs that are apportioned to all States for the fiscal year.

(d) REDISTRIBUTION OF UNUSED OBLIGATION AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding subsection (c), the Secretary shall, after August 1 of each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009—

(1) revise a distribution of the obligation authority made available under subsection (c) if an amount distributed cannot be obligated during that fiscal year; and

(2) redistribute sufficient amounts to those States able to obligate amounts in addition to those previously distributed during that fiscal year, giving priority to those States having large unobligated balances of funds apportioned under sections 104 and 144 of title 23, United States Code.

(e) APPLICABILITY OF OBLIGATION LIMITATIONS TO TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PROGRAMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), obligation limitations imposed by subsection (a) shall apply to contract authority for transportation research programs carried out under—

(A) chapter 5 of title 23, United States Code; and

(B) title II of this Act.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Obligation authority made available under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) remain available for a period of 3 fiscal years; and

(B) be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs for future fiscal years.

(f) REDISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN AUTHORIZED FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of distribution of obligation authority under subsection (c) for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, the Secretary shall distribute to the States any funds that—

(A) are authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year for Federal-aid highway programs; and

(B) the Secretary determines will not be allocated to the States, and will not be available for obligation, in the fiscal year due to the imposition of any obligation limitation for the fiscal year.

(2) RATIO.—Funds shall be distributed under paragraph (1) in the same ratio as the distribution of obligation authority under subsection (c)(6).

(3) AVAILABILITY.—Funds distributed under paragraph (1) shall be available for any purpose described in section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code.

(g) SPECIAL RULE.—Obligation authority distributed for a fiscal year under subsection (c)(4) for the provision specified in subsection (c)(4) shall—

(1) remain available until used for obligation of funds for that provision; and

(2) be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs for future fiscal years.

(h) ADJUSTMENT IN OBLIGATION LIMIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A limitation on obligations imposed by subsection (a) for a fiscal year shall be adjusted by an amount equal to the amount determined in accordance with section 251(b)(1)(B) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(1)(B)) for the fiscal year.

(2) DISTRIBUTION.—An adjustment under paragraph (1) shall be distributed in accordance with this section.

(i) LIMITATIONS ON OBLIGATIONS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the total amount of all obligations under section 104(a) of title 23, United States Code, shall not exceed—

(1) $450,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

(2) $465,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;

(3) $480,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;

(4) $495,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;

(5) $510,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

(6) $525,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(j) NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM COMPONENT.—Section 104(b)(1) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking ''$36,400,000'' and insert ''$50,000,000''.

SEC. 1103. APPORTIONMENTS.

(a) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 104 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to be made available to the Secretary of Transportation for administrative expenses of the Federal Highway Administration—

''(A) $450,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

''(B) $465,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;

''(C) $480,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;

''(D) $495,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;

''(E) $510,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

''(F) $525,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

''(2) PURPOSES.—The funds authorized by this subsection shall be used—

''(A) to administer the provisions of law to be financed from appropriations for the Federal-aid highway program and programs authorized under chapter 2; and

''(B) to make transfers of such sums as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to the

Appalachian Regional Commission for administrative activities associated with the Appalachian development highway system.

''(3) AVAILABILITY.—The funds made available under paragraph (1) shall remain available until expended.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 104 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) of subsection (b), by striking ''the deduction authorized by subsection (a) and'';

(B) in the first sentence of subsection (e)(1), by striking '', and also'' and all that follows through ''this section''; and

(C) in subsection (i), by striking ''deducted'' and inserting ''made available''.

(b) METROPOLITAN PLANNING.—Section 104(f) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) SET-ASIDE.—On October 1 of each fiscal year, the Secretary shall set aside 1.5 percent of the funds authorized to be appropriated for the Interstate maintenance, national highway system, surface transportation, congestion mitigation and air quality improvement, highway safety improvement, and highway bridge programs authorized under this title to carry out the requirements of section 134.'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking ''per centum'' and inserting ''percent'';

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking ''The funds'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The funds''; and

(B) by striking ''These funds'' and all that follows and inserting the following:

''(B) UNUSED FUNDS.—Any funds that are not used to carry out section 134 may be made available by a metropolitan planning organization to the State to fund activities under section 135.''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) FEDERAL SHARE.—Funds apportioned to a State under this subsection shall be matched in accordance with section 120(b) unless the Secretary determines that the interests of the Federal-aid highway program would be best served without the match.''.

(c) ALASKA HIGHWAY.—Section 104(b)(1)(A) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking ''1998 through 2002'' and inserting ''2004 through 2009''.

SEC. 1104. EQUITY BONUS PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 105 of title 23, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 105. Equity bonus program

''(a) PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsections (c) and (d), for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, the Secretary shall allocate among the States amounts sufficient to ensure that no State receives a percentage of the total apportionments for the fiscal year for the programs specified in paragraph (2) that is less than the percentage calculated under subsection (b).

''(2) SPECIFIC PROGRAMS.—The programs referred to in subsection (a) are—

''(A) the Interstate maintenance program under section 119;

''(B) the national highway system program under section 103;

''(C) the bridge program under section 144;

''(D) the surface transportation program under section 133;

''(E) the highway safety improvement program under section 148;

''(F) the congestion mitigation and air quality improvement program under section 149;

''(G) metropolitan planning programs under section 104(f) (other than planning programs funded by amounts provided under the equity bonus program under this section);

''(H) the infrastructure performance and maintenance program under section 139;

''(I) the equity bonus program under this section;

''(J) the Appalachian development highway system program under subtitle IV of title 40;

''(K) the recreational trails program under section 206;

''(L) the safe routes to schools program under section 150; and

''(M) the rail-highway grade crossing program under section 130.

''(b) STATE PERCENTAGE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The percentage referred to in subsection (a) for each State shall be—

''(A) 95 percent of the quotient obtained by dividing—

''(i) the estimated tax payments attributable to highway users in the State paid into the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) in the most recent fiscal year for which data are available; by

''(ii) the estimated tax payments attributable to highway users in all States paid into the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for the fiscal year; or

''(B) for a State with a total population density of less than 20 persons per square mile, as reported in the decennial census conducted by the Federal Government in 2000, a total population of less than 1,000,000, as reported in that decennial census, or a median household income of less than $35,000, as reported in that decennial census, the greater of—

''(i) the percentage under paragraph (1); or

''(ii) the average percentage of the State's share of total apportionments for the period of fiscal years 1998 through 2003 for the programs specified in paragraph (2).

''(2) SPECIFIC PROGRAMS.—The programs referred to in paragraph (1)(B)(ii) are (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004)—

''(A) the Interstate maintenance program under section 119;

''(B) the national highway system program under section 103;

''(C) the bridge program under section 144;

''(D) the surface transportation program under section 133;

''(E) the recreational trails program under section 206;

''(F) the high priority projects program under section 117;

''(G) the minimum guarantee provided under this section;

''(H) revenue aligned budget authority amounts provided under section 110;

''(I) the congestion mitigation and air quality improvement program under section 149;

''(J) the Appalachian development highway system program under subtitle IV of title 40; and

''(K) metropolitan planning programs under section 104(f).

''(c) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(1) MINIMUM COMBINED ALLOCATION.—For each fiscal year, before making the allocations under subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall allocate among the States amounts sufficient to ensure that no State receives a combined total of amounts allocated under subsection (a)(1), apportionments for the programs specified in subsection (a)(2), and amounts allocated under this subsection, that is less than 110 percent of the average for fiscal years 1998 through 2003 of the annual apportionments for the State for all programs specified in subsection (b)(2).

''(2) NO NEGATIVE ADJUSTMENT.—Notwithstanding subsection (d), no negative adjustment shall be made under subsection (a)(1) to the apportionment of any State.

''(3) MINIMUM SHARE OF TAX PAYMENTS.—Notwithstanding subsection (d), for each fiscal year, the Secretary shall allocate among the States amounts sufficient to ensure that no State receives a percentage of apportionments for the fiscal year for the programs specified in subsection (a)(2) that is less than 90.5 percent of the percentage share of the State of estimated tax payments attributable to highway users in the State paid into the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) in the most recent fiscal year for which data are available.

''(d) LIMITATION ON ADJUSTMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (c), no State shall receive, for any fiscal year, additional amounts under subsection (a)(1) if—

''(A) the total apportionments of the State for the fiscal year for the programs specified in subsection (a)(2); exceed

''(B) the percentage of the average, for the period of fiscal years 1998 through 2003, of the annual apportionments of the State for all programs specified in subsection (b)(2), as specified in paragraph (2).

''(2) PERCENTAGES.—The percentages referred to in paragraph (1)(B) are—

''(A) for fiscal year 2004, 120 percent;

''(B) for fiscal year 2005, 130 percent;

''(C) for fiscal year 2006, 134 percent;

''(D) for fiscal year 2007, 137 percent;

''(E) for fiscal year 2008, 145 percent; and

''(F) for fiscal year 2009, 250 percent.

''(e) PROGRAMMATIC DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall apportion the amounts made available under this section so that the amount apportioned to each State under this section for each program referred to in subparagraphs (A) through (G) of subsection (a)(2) is equal to the amount determined by multiplying the amount to be apportioned under this section by the proportion that—

''(1) the amount of funds apportioned to each State for each program referred to in subparagraphs (A) through (G) of subsection (a)(2) for a fiscal year; bears to

''(2) the total amount of funds apportioned to each State for all such programs for the fiscal year.

''(f) METRO PLANNING SET ASIDE.—Notwithstanding section 104(f), no set aside provided for under that section shall apply to funds allocated under this section.

''(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 105 and inserting the following:

''105. Equity bonus program.''

(2) Section 104(a)(1) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking ''minimum guarantee'' and inserting ''equity bonus''.

SEC. 1105. REVENUE ALIGNED BUDGET AUTHORITY.

Section 110 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraphs (1) and (2), by striking ''2000'' and inserting ''2006'';

(B) in paragraph (1), by inserting ''(as in effect on September 30, 2002)'' after ''(2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(B)(ii)(I)(cc))''; and

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking ''If the amount'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), if the amount'';

(ii) by inserting ''(as in effect on September 30, 2002)'' after ''(2 U.S.C. 901(b)(1)(B)(ii)(I)(cc)'';

(iii) by striking ''the succeeding'' and inserting ''that'';

(iv) by striking ''and the motor carrier safety grant program''; and

(v) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) LIMITATION.—No reduction under subparagraph (A) shall be made for a fiscal year if, as of October 1 of the fiscal year, the cash balance in the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) exceeds $6,000,000,000.'';

(2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

''(A) the sums authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for each of the Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs (other than the equity bonus program) and for which funds are allocated from the Highway Trust Fund by the Secretary under this title and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004; bears to'';

(3) in subsection (c), by inserting ''the highway safety improvement program,'' after ''the surface transportation program,''; and

(4) by striking subsections (e), (f), and (g).

Subtitle B—New Programs

SEC. 1201. INFRASTRUCTURE PERFORMANCE AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 138 the following:

''§ 139. Infrastructure performance and maintenance program

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish and implement an infrastructure performance and maintenance program in accordance with this section.

''(b) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—A State may obligate funds allocated to the State under this section only for projects eligible under the Interstate maintenance program under section 119, the National Highway System program under section 103, the surface transportation program under section 133, the highway safety improvement program under section 148, the highway bridge program under section 144, and the congestion mitigation and air quality improvement program under section 149 that will—

''(1) preserve, maintain, or otherwise extend, in a cost-effective manner, the useful life of existing highway infrastructure elements; or

''(2) provide operational improvements (including traffic management and intelligent transportation system strategies and limited capacity enhancements) at points of recurring highway congestion.

''(c) PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY.—

''(1) OBLIGATION WITHIN 180 DAYS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Funds allocated to a State under this section shall be obligated by the State not later than 180 days after the date of apportionment.

''(B) UNOBLIGATED FUNDS.—Any amounts that remain unobligated at the end of that period shall be allocated in accordance with subsection (d).

''(2) OBLIGATION BY END OF FISCAL YEAR.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—All funds allocated or reallocated under this section shall remain available for obligation until the last day of the fiscal year for which the funds are apportioned.

''(B) UNOBLIGATED FUNDS.—Any amounts allocated that remain unobligated at the end of the fiscal year shall lapse.

''(d) REDISTRIBUTION OF ALLOCATED FUNDS AND OBLIGATION AUTHORITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—On the date that is 180 days after the date of allocation, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for each fiscal year, the Secretary shall—

''(A) withdraw—

''(i) any funds allocated to a State under this section that remain unobligated; and

''(ii) an equal amount of obligation authority provided for the use of the funds in accordance with section 1101(13) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004; and

''(B) reallocate the funds and redistribute the obligation authority to those States that—

''(i) have fully obligated all amounts allocated under this section for the fiscal year; and

''(ii) demonstrate that the State is able to obligate additional amounts for projects eligible under this section before the end of the fiscal year.

''(2) EQUITY BONUS.—The calculation and distribution of funds under section 105 shall be adjusted as a result of the allocation of funds under this subsection.

''(e) FEDERAL SHARE PAYABLE.—The Federal share payable for a project funded under this section shall be determined in accordance with section 120.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating to section 138 the following:

''139. Infrastructure performance and maintenance program.''.

SEC. 1202. FUTURE OF SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM.

(a) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—Section 101 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''(b) It is hereby declared to be'' and inserting the following:

''(b) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—

''(1) ACCELERATION OF CONSTRUCTION OF FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY SYSTEMS.—Congress declares that it is'';

(2) in the second paragraph, by striking ''It is hereby declared'' and inserting the following:

''(2) COMPLETION OF INTERSTATE SYSTEM.—Congress declares''; and

(3) by striking the last paragraph and inserting the following:

''(3) TRANSPORTATION NEEDS OF 21ST CENTURY.—Congress declares that—

''(A) it is in the national interest to preserve and enhance the surface transportation system to meet the needs of the United States for the 21st Century;

''(B) the current urban and long distance personal travel and freight movement demands have surpassed the original forecasts and travel demand patterns are expected to change;

''(C) continued planning for and investment in surface transportation is critical to ensure the surface transportation system adequately meets the changing travel demands of the future;

''(D) among the foremost needs that the surface transportation system must meet to provide for a strong and vigorous national economy are safe, efficient, and reliable—

''(i) national and interregional personal mobility (including personal mobility in rural and urban areas) and reduced congestion;

''(ii) flow of interstate and international commerce and freight transportation; and

''(iii) travel movements essential for national security;

''(E) special emphasis should be devoted to providing safe and efficient access for the type and size of commercial and military vehicles that access designated National Highway System intermodal freight terminals;

''(F) it is in the national interest to seek ways to eliminate barriers to transportation investment created by the current modal structure of transportation financing;

''(G) the connection between land use and infrastructure is significant;

''(H) transportation should play a significant role in promoting economic growth, improving the environment, and sustaining the quality of life; and

''(I) the Secretary should take appropriate actions to preserve and enhance the Interstate System to meet the needs of the 21st Century.''.

(b) NATIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

(A) conduct a complete investigation and study of the current condition and future needs of the surface transportation system of the United States, including—

(i) the National Highway System;

(ii) the Interstate System;

(iii) the strategic highway network;

(iv) congressional high priority corridors;

(v) intermodal connectors;

(vi) freight facilities;

(vii) navigable waterways;

(viii) mass transportation;

(ix) freight and intercity passenger rail infrastructure and facilities; and

(x) surface access to airports; and

(B) develop a conceptual plan, with alternative approaches, for the future to ensure that the surface transportation system will continue to serve the needs of the United States, including specific recommendations regarding design and operational standards, Federal policies, and legislative changes.

(2) SPECIFIC ISSUES.—In conducting the investigation and study, the Secretary shall specifically address—

(A) the current condition and performance of the Interstate System (including the physical condition of bridges and pavements and operational characteristics and performance), relying primarily on existing data sources;

(B) the future of the Interstate System, based on a range of legislative and policy approaches for 15-, 30-, and 50-year time periods;

(C) the expected demographics and business uses that impact the surface transportation system;

(D) the expected use of the surface transportation system, including the effects of changing vehicle types, modes of transportation, fleet size and weights, and traffic volumes;

(E) desirable design policies and standards for future improvements of the surface transportation system, including additional access points;

(F) the identification of urban, rural, national, and interregional needs for the surface transportation system;

(G) the potential for expansion, upgrades, or other changes to the surface transportation system, including—

(i) deployment of advanced materials and intelligent technologies;

(ii) critical multistate, urban, and rural corridors needing capacity, safety, and operational enhancements;

(iii) improvements to intermodal linkages;

(iv) security and military deployment enhancements;

(v) strategies to enhance asset preservation; and

(vi) implementation strategies;

(H) the improvement of emergency preparedness and evacuation using the surface transportation system, including—

(i) examination of the potential use of all modes of the surface transportation system in the safe and efficient evacuation of citizens during times of emergency;

(ii) identification of the location of critical bottlenecks; and

(iii) development of strategies to improve system redundancy, especially in areas with a high potential for terrorist attacks;

(I) alternatives for addressing environmental concerns associated with the future development of the surface transportation system;

(J) the evaluation and assessment of the current and future capabilities for conducting system-wide real-time performance data collection and analysis, traffic monitoring, and transportation systems operations and management; and

(K) a range of policy and legislative alternatives for addressing future needs for the surface transportation system, including funding needs and potential approaches to provide funds.

(3) TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The Secretary shall establish a technical advisory committee, in a manner consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), to collect and evaluate technical input from—

(A) the Department of Defense;

(B) appropriate Federal, State, and local officials with responsibility for transportation;

(C) appropriate State and local elected officials;

(D) transportation and trade associations;

(E) emergency management officials;

(F) freight providers;
(G) the general public; and
(H) other entities and persons determined appropriate by the Secretary to ensure a diverse range of views.

(4) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, and make readily available to the public, a report on the results of the investigation and study conducted under this subsection.

SEC. 1203. FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION GATEWAYS; FREIGHT INTERMODAL CONNECTIONS.

(a) FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION GATEWAYS.—Chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 325. Freight transportation gateways

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a freight transportation gateways program to improve productivity, security, and safety of freight transportation gateways, while mitigating congestion and community impacts in the area of the gateways.

''(2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the freight transportation gateways program shall be—

''(A) to facilitate and support multimodal freight transportation initiatives at the State and local levels in order to improve freight transportation gateways and mitigate the impact of congestion on the environment in the area of the gateways;

''(B) to provide capital funding to address infrastructure and freight operational needs at freight transportation gateways;

''(C) to encourage adoption of new financing strategies to leverage State, local, and private investment in freight transportation gateways;

''(D) to facilitate access to intermodal freight transfer facilities; and

''(E) to increase economic efficiency by facilitating the movement of goods.

''(b) STATE RESPONSIBILITIES.—

''(1) PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS.—Each State, in coordination with metropolitan planning organizations, shall ensure that intermodal freight transportation, trade facilitation, and economic development needs are adequately considered and fully integrated into the project development process, including transportation planning through final design and construction of freight-related transportation projects.

''(2) FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall designate a freight transportation coordinator.

''(B) DUTIES.—The coordinator shall—

''(i) foster public and private sector collaboration needed to implement complex solutions to freight transportation and freight transportation gateway problems, including—

''(I) coordination of metropolitan and statewide transportation activities with trade and economic interests;

''(II) coordination with other States, agencies, and organizations to find regional solutions to freight transportation problems; and

''(III) coordination with local officials of the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security, and with other organizations, to develop regional solutions to military and homeland security transportation needs; and

''(ii) promote programs that build professional capacity to better plan, coordinate, integrate, and understand freight transportation needs for the State.

''(c) INNOVATIVE FINANCE STRATEGIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—States and localities are encouraged to adopt innovative financing strategies for freight transportation gateway improvements, including—

''(A) new user fees;

''(B) modifications to existing user fees, including trade facilitation charges;

''(C) revenue options that incorporate private sector investment; and

''(D) a blending of Federal-aid and innovative finance programs.

''(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance to States and localities with respect to the strategies.

''(d) INTERMODAL FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS.—

''(1) USE OF SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FUNDS.—A State may obligate funds apportioned to the State under section 104(b)(3) for publicly-owned intermodal freight transportation projects that provide community and highway benefits by addressing economic, congestion, system reliability, security, safety, or environmental issues associated with freight transportation gateways.

''(2) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—A project eligible for funding under this section—

''(A) may include publicly-owned intermodal freight transfer facilities, access to the facilities, and operational improvements for the facilities (including capital investment for intelligent transportation systems), except that projects located within the boundaries of port terminals shall only include the surface transportation infrastructure modifications necessary to facilitate direct intermodal interchange, transfer, and access into and out of the port; and

''(B) may involve the combining of private and public funds.''.

(b) ELIGIBILITY FOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FUNDS.—Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting after paragraph (11) the following:

''(12) Intermodal freight transportation projects in accordance with section 325(d)(2).''.

(c) FREIGHT INTERMODAL CONNECTIONS TO NHS.—Section 103(b) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(7) FREIGHT INTERMODAL CONNECTIONS TO THE NHS.—

''(A) FUNDING SET-ASIDE.—Of the funds apportioned to a State for each fiscal year under section 104(b)(1), an amount determined in accordance with subparagraph (B) shall only be available to the State to be obligated for projects on—

''(i) National Highway System routes connecting to intermodal freight terminals identified according to criteria specified in the report to Congress entitled 'Pulling Together: The National Highway System and its Connections to Major Intermodal Terminals' dated May 24, 1996, referred to in paragraph (1), and any modifications to the connections that are consistent with paragraph (4);

''(ii) strategic highway network connectors to strategic military deployment ports; and

''(iii) projects to eliminate railroad crossings or make railroad crossing improvements.

''(B) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT.—The amount of funds for each State for a fiscal year that shall be set aside under subparagraph (A) shall be equal to the greater of—

''(i) the product obtained by multiplying—

''(I) the total amount of funds apportioned to the State under section 104(b)(1); by

''(II) the percentage of miles that routes specified in subparagraph (A) constitute of the total miles on the National Highway System in the State; or

''(ii) 2 percent of the annual apportionment to the State of funds under 104(b)(1).

''(C) EXEMPTION FROM SET-ASIDE.—For any fiscal year, a State may obligate the funds otherwise set aside by this paragraph for any project that is eligible under paragraph (6) and is located in the State on a segment of the National Highway System specified in paragraph (2), if the State certifies and the Secretary concurs that—

''(i) the designated National Highway System intermodal connectors described in subparagraph (A) are in good condition and provide an adequate level of service for military vehicle and civilian commercial vehicle use; and

''(ii) significant needs on the designated National Highway System intermodal connectors are being met or do not exist.''.

(d) FEDERAL SHARE PAYABLE.—Section 120 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(m) INCREASED FEDERAL SHARE FOR CONNECTORS.—In the case of a project to support a National Highway System intermodal freight connection or strategic highway network connector to a strategic military deployment port described in section 103(b)(7), except as otherwise provided in section 120, the Federal share of the total cost of the project shall be 90 percent.''.

(e) LENGTH LIMITATIONS.—Section 31111(e) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''The'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) LENGTH LIMITATIONS.—In the interests of economic competitiveness, security, and intermodal connectivity, not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, States shall update the list of those qualifying highways to include—

''(A) strategic highway network connectors to strategic military deployment ports; and

''(B) National Highway System intermodal freight connections serving military and commercial truck traffic going to major intermodal terminals as described in section 103(b)(7)(A)(i).''.

(f) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis of chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''325. Freight transportation gateways.''.

SEC. 1204. CONSTRUCTION OF FERRY BOATS AND FERRY TERMINAL AND MAINTENANCE FACILITIES; COORDINATION OF FERRY CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 147 of title 23, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 147. Construction of ferry boats and ferry terminal and maintenance facilities; coordination of ferry construction and maintenance

''(a) CONSTRUCTION OF FERRY BOATS AND FERRY TERMINAL FACILITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program for construction of ferry boats and ferry terminal facilities in accordance with section 129(c).

''(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of construction of ferry boats and ferry terminals and maintenance facilities under this subsection shall be 80 percent.

''(3) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall give priority in the allocation of funds under this subsection to those ferry systems, and public entities responsible for developing ferries, that—

''(A) carry the greatest number of passengers and vehicles;

''(B) carry the greatest number of passengers in passenger-only service; or

''(C) provide critical access to areas that are not well-served by other modes of surface transportation.

''(b) NON-CONTRACT AUTHORITY AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) $60,000,000 for each fiscal year to carry out this section.

''(2) AVAILABILITY.—Notwithstanding section 118(a), funds made available under paragraph (1) shall be available in advance of an annual appropriation.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by

striking the item relating to section 147 and inserting the following:

''147. Construction of ferry boats and ferry terminal and maintenance facilities.''.

(2) Section 1064 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (105 Stat. 2005) is repealed.

SEC. 1205. DESIGNATION OF DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN INTERSTATE HIGHWAY.

(a) DESIGNATION.—Interstate Highway 86 in the State of New York, extending from the Pennsylvania border near Lake Erie through Orange County, New York, shall be known and designated as the ''Daniel Patrick Moynihan Interstate Highway''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the highway referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Interstate Highway.

SEC. 1206. STATE-BY-STATE COMPARISON OF HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION COSTS.

(a) COLLECTION OF DATA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration (referred to in this section as the ''Administrator'') shall collect from States any bid price data that is necessary to make State-by-State comparisons of highway construction costs.

(2) DATA REQUIRED.—In determining which data to collect and the procedures for collecting data, the Administrator shall take into account the data collection deficiencies identified in the report prepared by the General Accounting Office numbered GAO–04–113R.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall submit to Congress an annual report on the bid price data collected under subsection (a).

(2) INCLUSIONS.—The report shall include—

(A) State-by-State comparisons of highway construction costs for the previous fiscal year (including the cost to construct a 1-mile road segment of a standard design, as determined by the Administrator); and

(B) a description of the competitive bidding procedures used in each State; and

(C) a determination by Administrator as to whether the competitive bidding procedures described under subparagraph (B) are effective.

Subtitle C—Finance

SEC. 1301. FEDERAL SHARE.

Section 120 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the Federal share payable on account of any project on the Interstate System (including a project to add high occupancy vehicle lanes and a project to add auxiliary lanes but excluding a project to add any other lanes) shall be 90 percent of the total cost of the project.'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking ''Except as otherwise'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise'';

(B) by striking ''shall be—'' and all that follows and inserting ''shall be 80 percent of the cost of the project.''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) STATE-DETERMINED LOWER FEDERAL SHARE.—In the case of any project subject to this subsection, a State may determine a lower Federal share than the Federal share determined under paragraph (1).'';

(3) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) INCREASED FEDERAL SHARE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share payable under subsection (a) or (b) may be increased for projects and activities in each State in which is located—

''(A) nontaxable Indian land;

''(B) public land (reserved or unreserved);

''(C) a national forest; or

''(D) a national park or monument.

''(2) AMOUNT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share for States described in paragraph (1) shall be increased by a percentage of the remaining cost that—

''(i) is equal to the percentage that—

''(I) the area of all land described in paragraph (1) in a State; bears to

''(II) the total area of the State; but

''(ii) does not exceed 95 percent of the total cost of the project or activity for which the Federal share is provided.

''(B) ADJUSTMENT.—The Secretary shall adjust the Federal share for States under subparagraph (A) as the Secretary determines necessary, on the basis of data provided by the Federal agencies that are responsible for maintaining the data.''.

SEC. 1302. TRANSFER OF HIGHWAY AND TRANSIT FUNDS.

Section 104 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (k) and inserting the following:

''(k) TRANSFER OF HIGHWAY AND TRANSIT FUNDS.—

''(1) TRANSFER OF HIGHWAY FUNDS FOR TRANSIT PROJECTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), funds made available for transit projects or transportation planning under this title may be transferred to and administered by the Secretary in accordance with chapter 53 of title 49.

''(B) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The provisions of this title relating to the non-Federal share shall apply to the transferred funds.

''(2) TRANSFER OF TRANSIT FUNDS FOR HIGHWAY PROJECTS.—Funds made available for highway projects or transportation planning under chapter 53 of title 49 may be transferred to and administered by the Secretary in accordance with this title.

''(3) TRANSFER OF HIGHWAY FUNDS TO OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clauses (i) and (ii) and subparagraph (B), funds made available under this title or any other Act that are derived from Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit account) may be transferred to another Federal agency if—

''(i)(I) an expenditure is specifically authorized in Federal-aid highway legislation or as a line item in an appropriation act; or

''(II) a State transportation department consents to the transfer of funds;

''(ii) the Secretary determines, after consultation with the State transportation department (as appropriate), that the Federal agency should carry out a project with the funds; and

''(iii) the other Federal agency agrees to accept the transfer of funds and to administer the project.

''(B) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(i) PROCEDURES.—A project carried out with funds transferred to a Federal agency under subparagraph (A) shall be administered by the Federal agency under the procedures of the Federal agency.

''(ii) APPROPRIATIONS.—Funds transferred to a Federal agency under subparagraph (A) shall not be considered an augmentation of the appropriations of the Federal agency.

''(iii) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The provisions of this title, or an Act described in subparagraph (A), relating to the non-Federal share shall apply to a project carried out with the transferred funds, unless the Secretary determines that it is in the best interest of the United States that the non-Federal share be waived.

''(4) TRANSFER OF FUNDS AMONG STATES OR TO FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (B) through (D), the Secretary may, at the request of a State, transfer funds apportioned or allocated to the State to another State, or to the Federal Highway Administration, for the purpose of funding 1 or more specific projects.

''(B) ADMINISTRATION.—The transferred funds shall be used for the same purpose and in the same manner for which the transferred funds were authorized.

''(C) APPORTIONMENT.—The transfer shall have no effect on any apportionment formula used to distribute funds to States under this section or section 105 or 144.

''(D) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM.—Funds that are apportioned or allocated to a State under subsection (b)(3) and attributed to an urbanized area of a State with a population of over 200,000 individuals under section 133(d)(2) may be transferred under this paragraph only if the metropolitan planning organization designated for the area concurs, in writing, with the transfer request.

''(5) TRANSFER OF OBLIGATION AUTHORITY.—Obligation authority for funds transferred under this subsection shall be transferred in the same manner and amount as the funds for the projects are transferred under this subsection.''.

SEC. 1303. TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AND INNOVATION ACT AMENDMENTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 181 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking ''category'' and ''offered into the capital markets'';

(2) by striking paragraph (7) and redesignating paragraphs (8) through (15) as paragraphs (7) through (14) respectively;

(3) in paragraph (8) (as redesignated by paragraph (2))—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(B) by striking subparagraph (D) and inserting the following:

''(D) a project that—

''(i)(I) is a project for—

''(aa) a public freight rail facility or a private facility providing public benefit;

''(bb) an intermodal freight transfer facility;

''(cc) a means of access to a facility described in item (aa) or (bb);

''(dd) a service improvement for a facility described in item (aa) or (bb) (including a capital investment for an intelligent transportation system); or

''(II) comprises a series of projects described in subclause (I) with the common objective of improving the flow of goods;

''(ii) may involve the combining of private and public sector funds, including investment of public funds in private sector facility improvements; and

''(iii) if located within the boundaries of a port terminal, includes only such surface transportation infrastructure modifications as are necessary to facilitate direct intermodal interchange, transfer, and access into and out of the port.''; and

(4) in paragraph (10) (as redesignated by paragraph (2)) by striking ''bond'' and inserting ''credit''.

(b) DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY AND PROJECT SELECTION.—Section 182 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following:

''(1) INCLUSION IN TRANSPORTATION PLANS AND PROGRAMS.—The project shall satisfy the applicable planning and programming requirements of sections 134 and 135 at such time as an agreement to make available a Federal credit instrument is entered into under this subchapter.

''(2) APPLICATION.—A State, local government, public authority, public-private partnership, or any other legal entity undertaking the project and authorized by the Secretary shall submit a project application to the Secretary.'';

(B) in paragraph (3)(A)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking ''$100,000,000'' and inserting ''$50,000,000''; and

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking ''50'' and inserting ''20''; and

(C) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking ''Project financing'' and inserting ''The Federal credit instrument''; and

(ii) by inserting before the period at the end the following: ''that also secure the project obligations''; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''criteria'' the second place it appears and inserting ''requirements''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting ''(which may be the Federal credit instrument)'' after ''obligations''.

(c) SECURED LOANS.—Section 183 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''of any project selected under section 182.'' at the end;

(ii) in subparagraphs (A) and (B), by inserting ''of any project selected under section 182'' after ''costs'' ; and

(iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a period; and

(B) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking ''funding'' and inserting ''execution''; and

(ii) by striking ''rating,'' and all that follows and inserting a period;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The amount of the secured loan shall not exceed the lesser of—

''(A) 33 percent of the reasonably anticipated eligible project costs; or

''(B) the amount of the senior project obligations.'';

(B) in paragraph (3)(A)(i), by inserting ''that also secure the senior project obligations'' after ''sources''; and

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking ''marketable''; and

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking paragraph (3);

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively; and

(C) in paragraph (3) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B))—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''during the 10 years''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking ''loan'' and all that follows and inserting ''loan.''.

(d) LINES OF CREDIT.—Section 184 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking ''interest, any debt service reserve fund, and any other available reserve'' and inserting ''interest (but not including reasonably required financing reserves)'';

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking ''marketable United States Treasury securities as of the date on which the line of credit is obligated'' and inserting '' United States Treasury securities as of the date of execution of the line of credit agreement''; and

(C) in paragraph (5)(A)(i), by inserting ''that also secure the senior project obligations'' after ''sources''; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking ''scheduled'';

(ii) by inserting ''be scheduled to'' after ''shall''; and

(iii) by striking ''be fully repaid, with interest,'' and inserting ''to conclude, with full repayment of principal and interest,''; and

(B) by striking paragraph (3).

(e) PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.—Section 185 of title 23, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 185. Program administration

''(a) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a uniform system to service the Federal credit instruments made available under this subchapter.

''(b) FEES.—The Secretary may establish fees at a level to cover all or a portion of the costs to the Federal government of servicing the Federal credit instruments.

''(c) SERVICER.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may appoint a financial entity to assist the Secretary in servicing the Federal credit instruments.

''(2) DUTIES.—The servicer shall act as the agent for the Secretary.

''(3) FEE.—The servicer shall receive a servicing fee, subject to approval by the Secretary.

''(d) ASSISTANCE FROM EXPERT FIRMS.—The Secretary may retain the services of expert firms, including counsel, in the field of municipal and project finance to assist in the underwriting and servicing of Federal credit instruments.''.

(f) FUNDING.—Section 188 of title 23, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 188. Funding

''(a) FUNDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out this subchapter $130,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

''(2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Of amounts made available under paragraph (1), the Secretary may use for the administration of this subchapter not more than $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

''(3) COLLECTED FEES AND SERVICES.—In addition to funds provided under paragraph (2)—

''(A) all fees collected under this subchapter shall be made available without further appropriation to the Secretary until expended, for use in administering this subchapter; and

''(B) the Secretary may accept and use payment or services provided by transaction participants, or third parties that are paid by participants from transaction proceeds, for due diligence, legal, financial, or technical services.

''(4) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts made available under paragraph (1) shall remain available until expended.

''(b) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, approval by the Secretary of a Federal credit instrument that uses funds made available under this subchapter shall be deemed to be acceptance by the United States of a contractual obligation to fund the Federal credit investment.

''(2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts authorized under this section for a fiscal year shall be available for obligation on October 1 of the fiscal year.''.

(g) REPEAL.—Section 189 of title 23, United States code, is repealed.

(h) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The analysis for chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking the item relating to section 185 and inserting the following:

''185. Program administration.'';

and

(2) by striking the item relating to section 189.

SEC. 1304. FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION PLANS AND INTERNATIONAL FUEL TAX AGREEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 317 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 31708. Facilitation of international registration plans and international fuel tax agreements

''The Secretary may provide assistance to any State that is participating in the International Registration Plan and International Fuel Tax Agreement, as provided in sections 31704 and 31705, respectively, and that serves as a base jurisdiction for motor carriers that are domiciled in Mexico, to assist the State with administrative costs resulting from serving as a base jurisdiction for motor carriers from Mexico.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 317 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''31708. Facilitation of international registration plans and international fuel tax agreements.''.

SEC. 1305. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON FUTURE REVENUE SOURCES TO SUPPORT THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND AND FINANCE THE NEEDS OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a commission to be known as the ''National Commission on Future Revenue Sources to Support the Highway Trust Fund and Finance the Needs of the Surface Transportation System'' (referred to in this section as the ''Commission'').

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) COMPOSITION.—The Commission shall be composed of 11 members, of whom—

(A) 3 members shall be appointed by the President;

(B) 2 members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(C) 2 members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(D) 2 members shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate; and

(E) 2 members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—Members appointed under paragraph (1) shall have experience in or represent the interests of—

(A) public finance, including experience in developing State and local revenue resources;

(B) surface transportation program administration;

(C) organizations that use surface transportation facilities;

(D) academic research into related issues; or

(E) other activities that provide unique perspectives on current and future requirements for revenue sources to support the Highway Trust Fund.

(3) DATE OF APPOINTMENTS.—The appointment of a member of the Commission shall be made not later than 120 days after the date of establishment of the Commission.

(4) TERMS.—A member shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(5) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Commission—

(A) shall not affect the powers of the Commission; and

(B) shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made.

(6) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which all members of the Commission have been appointed, the Commission shall hold the initial meeting of the Commission.

(7) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chairperson.

(8) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number of members may hold hearings.

(9) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—The Commission shall select a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from among the members of the Commission.

(c) DUTIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall—

(A) conduct a comprehensive study of alternatives to replace or to supplement the fuel tax as the principal revenue source to support the Highway Trust Fund and suggest new or alternative sources of revenue to fund the needs of the surface transportation system over at least the next 30 years;

(B) conduct the study in a manner that builds on—

(i) findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the recent study conducted by the Transportation Research Board on alternatives to the fuel tax to support highway program financing; and

(ii) other relevant prior research;

(C) consult with the Secretary and the Secretary of the Treasury in conducting the study

to ensure that the views of the Secretaries concerning essential attributes of Highway Trust Fund revenue alternatives are considered;

(D) consult with representatives of State Departments of Transportation and metropolitan planning organizations and other key interested stakeholders in conducting the study to ensure that—

(i) the views of the stakeholders on alternative revenue sources to support State transportation improvement programs are considered; and

(ii) any recommended Federal financing strategy takes into account State financial requirements; and

(E) based on the study, make specific recommendations regarding—

(i) actions that should be taken to develop alternative revenue sources to support the Highway Trust Fund; and

(ii) the time frame for taking those actions.

(2) SPECIFIC MATTERS.—The study shall address specifically—

(A) the advantages and disadvantages of alternative revenue sources to meet anticipated Federal surface transportation financial requirements;

(B) recommendations concerning the most promising revenue sources to support long-term Federal surface transportation financing requirements;

(C) development of a broad transition strategy to move from the current tax base to new funding mechanisms, including the time frame for various components of the transition strategy;

(D) recommendations for additional research that may be needed to implement recommended alternatives; and

(E) the extent to which revenues should reflect the relative use of the highway system.

(3) RELATED WORK.—To the maximum extent practicable, the study shall build on related work that has been done by—

(A) the Secretary of Transportation;

(B) the Secretary of Energy;

(C) the Transportation Research Board; and

(D) other entities and persons.

(4) FACTORS.—In developing recommendations under this subsection, the Commission shall consider—

(A) the ability to generate sufficient revenues from all modes to meet anticipated long-term surface transportation financing needs;

(B) the roles of the various levels of government and the private sector in meeting future surface transportation financing needs;

(C) administrative costs (including enforcement costs) to implement each option;

(D) the expected increase in non-taxed fuels and the impact of taxing those fuels;

(E) the likely technological advances that could ease implementation of each option;

(F) the equity and economic efficiency of each option;

(G) the flexibility of different options to allow various pricing alternatives to be implemented; and

(H) potential compatibility issues with State and local tax mechanisms under each alternative.

(5) REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than September 30, 2007, the Commission shall submit to Congress a final report that contains—

(A) a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the Commission; and

(B) the recommendations of the Commission for such legislation and administrative actions as the Commission considers appropriate.

(d) POWERS.—

(1) HEARINGS.—The Commission may hold such hearings, meet and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the Commission considers advisable to carry out this section.

(2) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may secure directly from a Federal agency such information as the Commission considers necessary to carry out this section.

(B) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—On request of the Chairperson of the Commission, the head of the agency shall provide the information to the Commission.

(3) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other agencies of the Federal Government.

(4) DONATIONS.—The Commission may accept, use, and dispose of donations of services or property.

(e) COMMISSION PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

(1) MEMBERS.—A member of the Commission shall serve without pay but shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee of an agency under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in the performance of the duties of the Commission.

(2) CONTRACTOR.—The Commission may contract with an appropriate organization, agency, or entity to conduct the study required under this section, under the strategic guidance of the Commission.

(3) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.—On the request of the Commission, the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration shall provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable basis, the administrative support and services necessary for the Commission to carry out the duties of the Commission under this section.

(4) DETAIL OF DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—On the request of the Commission, the Secretary may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of the Department to the Commission to assist the Commission in carrying out the duties of the Commission under this section.

(B) CIVIL SERVICE STATUS.—The detail of the employee shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status or privilege.

(5) COOPERATION.—The staff of the Secretary shall cooperate with the Commission in the study required under this section, including providing such nonconfidential data and information as are necessary to conduct the study.

(f) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), funds made available to carry out this section shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code.

(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of the study and the Commission under this section shall be 100 percent.

(3) AVAILABILITY.—Funds made available to carry out this section shall remain available until expended.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out this section $3,000,000 for fiscal year 2004.

(h) TERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall terminate on the date that is 180 days after the date on which the Commission submits the report of the Commission under subsection (c)(5).

(2) RECORDS.—Not later than the termination date for the Commission, all records and papers of the Commission shall be delivered to the Archivist of the United States for deposit in the National Archives.

SEC. 1306. STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANKS.

Section 1511(b)(1)(A) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (23 U.S.C. 181 note; 112 Stat. 251) is amended by striking ''Missouri,'' and all that follows through ''for the establishment'' and inserting ''Missouri, Rhode Island, Texas, and any other State that seeks such an agreement for the establishment''.

SEC. 1307. PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS PILOT PROGRAM.

Section 109(c) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS PILOT PROGRAM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may undertake a pilot program to demonstrate the advantages of public-private partnerships for critical capital development projects, including highway, bridge, and freight intermodal connector projects authorized under this title.

''(B) PROJECTS.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall—

''(i) select not less than 10 qualified public-private partnership projects that are authorized under applicable State and local laws; and

''(ii) use funds made available to carry out the program to provide to sponsors of the projects assistance for development phase activities described in section 181(1)(A), to enhance project delivery and reduce overall costs.''.

SEC. 1308. WAGERING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 35 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 4901 of the Internal Revenue Code is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 4901. PAYMENT OF TAX.

''All special taxes shall be imposed as of on the first day of July in each year, or on commencing any trade or business on which such tax is imposed. In the former case the tax shall be reckoned for 1 year, and in the latter case it shall be reckoned proportionately, from the first day of the month in which the liability to a special tax commenced, to and including the 30th day of June following.''.

(2) Section 4903 of such Code is amended by striking '', other than the tax imposed by section 4411,''.

(3) Section 4905 of such Code is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 4905. LIABILITY IN CASE OF DEATH OR CHANGE OF LOCATION.

''When any person who has paid the special tax for any trade or business dies, his spouse or child, or executors or administrators or other legal representatives, may occupy the house or premises, and in like manner carry on, for the residue of the term for which the tax is paid, the same trade or business as the deceased before carried on, in the same house and upon the same premises, without the payment of any additional tax. When any person removes from the house or premises for which any trade or business was taxed to any other place, he may carry on the trade or business specified in the register kept in the office of the official in charge of the internal revenue district at the place to which he removes, without the payment of any additional tax: Provided, That all cases of death, change, or removal, as aforesaid, with the name of the successor to any person deceased, or of the person making such change or removal, shall be registered with the Secretary, under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary.''.

(4) Section 4907 of such Code is amended by striking '', except the tax imposed by section 4411,''.

(5) Section 6103(i)(8)(A) of such Code is amended—

(A) by striking '', except to the extent authorized by subsection (f) or (p)(6), disclose to any person, other than another officer or employee of such office whose official duties require such disclosure, any return or return information described in section 4424(a) in a form which can be associated with, or otherwise identify, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer, nor shall such officer or employee disclose any other'' and inserting ''disclose any'', and

(B) by striking ''such other officer'' and inserting ''such officer''.

(6) Section 6103(o) of such Code is amended to read as follows:

''(o) DISCLOSURE OF RETURNS AND RETURN INFORMATION WITH RESPECT TO TAXES IMPOSED BY SUBTITLE E.—Returns and return information with respect to taxes imposed by subtitle E (relating to taxes on alcohol, tobacco, and firearms) shall be open to inspection by or disclosure to officers and employees of a Federal

agency whose official duties require such inspection or disclosure.''.

(7)(A) Subchapter B of chapter 65 of such Code is amended by striking section 6419 (relating to excise tax on wagering).

(B) The table of section of subchapter B of chapter 65 of such Code is amended by striking the item relating to section 6419.

(8) Section 6806 of such Code is amended by striking ''under subchapter B of chapter 35, under subchapter B of chapter 36,'' and inserting ''under subchapter B of chapter 36''.

(9) Section 7012 of such Code is amended by striking paragraph (2) and by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respectively.

(10)(A) Subchapter B of chapter 75 of such Code is amended by striking section 7262 (relating to violation of occupational tax laws relating to wagering-failure to pay special tax).

(B) The table of sections of subchapter B of chapter 75 of such Code is amended by striking the item relating to section 7262.

(11) Section 7272 of such Code, as amended by section 5244 of this Act, is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 7272. PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REGISTER.

''Any person (other than persons required to register under subtitle E, or persons engaging in a trade or business on which a special tax is imposed by such subtitle) who fails to register with the Secretary as required by this title or by regulations issued thereunder shall be liable to a penalty of $50 ($10,000 in the case of a failure to register under section 4101).''.

(12) Section 7613(a) is amended by striking ''or other data in the case of'' and all that follows and inserting ''or other data in the case of alcohol, tobacco, and firearms taxes, see subtitle E.''.

(13) The table of chapters of subtitle D of such Code is amended by striking the item relating to chapter 35.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to wagers placed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) SPECIAL TAXES.—In the case of amendments made by this section relating to special taxes imposed by subchapter B of chapter 35, the amendments made by this section shall take effect on July 1, 2004.

Subtitle D—Safety

SEC. 1401. HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

(a) SAFETY IMPROVEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 148 of title 23, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 148. Highway safety improvement program

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—The term 'highway safety improvement program' means the program carried out under this section.

''(2) HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'highway safety improvement project' means a project described in the State strategic highway safety plan that—

''(i) corrects or improves a hazardous road location or feature; or

''(ii) addresses a highway safety problem.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'highway safety improvement project' includes a project for—

''(i) an intersection safety improvement;

''(ii) pavement and shoulder widening (including addition of a passing lane to remedy an unsafe condition);

''(iii) installation of rumble strips or another warning device, if the rumble strips or other warning devices do not adversely affect the safety or mobility of bicyclists and pedestrians;

''(iv) installation of a skid-resistant surface at an intersection or other location with a high frequency of accidents;

''(v) an improvement for pedestrian or bicyclist safety;

''(vi)(I) construction of any project for the elimination of hazards at a railway-highway crossing that is eligible for funding under section 130, including the separation or protection of grades at railway-highway crossings;

''(II) construction of a railway-highway crossing safety feature; or

''(III) the conduct of a model traffic enforcement activity at a railway-highway crossing;

''(vii) construction of a traffic calming feature;

''(viii) elimination of a roadside obstacle;

''(ix) improvement of highway signage and pavement markings;

''(x) installation of a priority control system for emergency vehicles at signalized intersections;

''(xi) installation of a traffic control or other warning device at a location with high accident potential;

''(xii) safety-conscious planning;

''(xiii) improvement in the collection and analysis of crash data;

''(xiv) planning, integrated, interoperable emergency communications, equipment, operational activities, or traffic enforcement activities (including police assistance) relating to workzone safety;

''(xv) installation of guardrails, barriers (including barriers between construction work zones and traffic lanes for the safety of motorists and workers), and crash attenuators;

''(xvi) the addition or retrofitting of structures or other measures to eliminate or reduce accidents involving vehicles and wildlife; or

''(xvii) installation and maintenance of signs (including fluorescent, yellow-green signs) at pedestrian-bicycle crossings and in school zones.

''(3) SAFETY PROJECT UNDER ANY OTHER SECTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'safety project under any other section' means a project carried out for the purpose of safety under any other section of this title.

''(B) INCLUSION.—The term 'safety project under any other section' includes a project to—

''(i) promote the awareness of the public and educate the public concerning highway safety matters; or

''(ii) enforce highway safety laws.

''(4) STATE HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—The term 'State highway safety improvement program' means projects or strategies included in the State strategic highway safety plan carried out as part of the State transportation improvement program under section 135(f).

''(5) STATE STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN.—The term 'State strategic highway safety plan' means a plan developed by the State transportation department that—

''(A) is developed after consultation with—

''(i) a highway safety representative of the Governor of the State;

''(ii) regional transportation planning organizations and metropolitan planning organizations, if any;

''(iii) representatives of major modes of transportation;

''(iv) State and local traffic enforcement officials;

''(v) persons responsible for administering section 130 at the State level;

''(vi) representatives conducting Operation Lifesaver;

''(vii) representatives conducting a motor carrier safety program under section 31104 or 31107 of title 49;

''(viii) motor vehicle administration agencies; and

''(ix) other major State and local safety stakeholders;

''(B) analyzes and makes effective use of State, regional, or local crash data;

''(C) addresses engineering, management, operation, education, enforcement, and emergency services elements (including integrated, interoperable emergency communications) of highway safety as key factors in evaluating highway projects;

''(D) considers safety needs of, and high-fatality segments of, public roads;

''(E) considers the results of State, regional, or local transportation and highway safety planning processes;

''(F) describes a program of projects or strategies to reduce or eliminate safety hazards;

''(G) is approved by the Governor of the State or a responsible State agency; and

''(H) is consistent with the requirements of section 135(f).

''(b) PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a highway safety improvement program.

''(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the highway safety improvement program shall be to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on public roads.

''(c) ELIGIBILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To obligate funds apportioned under section 104(b)(5) to carry out this section, a State shall have in effect a State highway safety improvement program under which the State—

''(A) develops and implements a State strategic highway safety plan that identifies and analyzes highway safety problems and opportunities as provided in paragraph (2);

''(B) produces a program of projects or strategies to reduce identified safety problems;

''(C) evaluates the plan on a regular basis to ensure the accuracy of the data and priority of proposed improvements; and

''(D) submits to the Secretary an annual report that—

''(i) describes, in a clearly understandable fashion, not less than 5 percent of locations determined by the State, using criteria established in accordance with paragraph (2)(B)(ii), as exhibiting the most severe safety needs; and

''(ii) contains an assessment of—

''(I) potential remedies to hazardous locations identified;

''(II) estimated costs associated with those remedies; and

''(III) impediments to implementation other than cost associated with those remedies.

''(2) IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF HIGHWAY SAFETY PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES.—As part of the State strategic highway safety plan, a State shall—

''(A) have in place a crash data system with the ability to perform safety problem identification and countermeasure analysis;

''(B) based on the analysis required by subparagraph (A)—

''(i) identify hazardous locations, sections, and elements (including roadside obstacles, railway-highway crossing needs, and unmarked or poorly marked roads) that constitute a danger to motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, and other highway users; and

''(ii) using such criteria as the State determines to be appropriate, establish the relative severity of those locations, in terms of accidents, injuries, deaths, traffic volume levels, and other relevant data;

''(C) adopt strategic and performance-based goals that—

''(i) address traffic safety, including behavioral and infrastructure problems and opportunities on all public roads;

''(ii) focus resources on areas of greatest need; and

''(iii) are coordinated with other State highway safety programs;

''(D) advance the capabilities of the State for traffic records data collection, analysis, and integration with other sources of safety data (such as road inventories) in a manner that—

''(i) complements the State highway safety program under chapter 4 and the commercial vehicle safety plan under section 31102 of title 49;

''(ii) includes all public roads;

''(iii) identifies hazardous locations, sections, and elements on public roads that constitute a danger to motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, and other highway users; and

''(iv) includes a means of identifying the relative severity of hazardous locations described in clause (iii) in terms of accidents, injuries, deaths, and traffic volume levels;

''(E)(i) determine priorities for the correction of hazardous road locations, sections, and elements (including railway-highway crossing improvements), as identified through crash data analysis;

''(ii) identify opportunities for preventing the development of such hazardous conditions; and

''(iii) establish and implement a schedule of highway safety improvement projects for hazard correction and hazard prevention; and

''(F)(i) establish an evaluation process to analyze and assess results achieved by highway safety improvement projects carried out in accordance with procedures and criteria established by this section; and

''(ii) use the information obtained under clause (i) in setting priorities for highway safety improvement projects.

''(d) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A State may obligate funds apportioned to the State under section 104(b)(5) to carry out—

''(A) any highway safety improvement project on any public road or publicly owned bicycle or pedestrian pathway or trail; or

''(B) as provided in subsection (e), for other safety projects.

''(2) USE OF OTHER FUNDING FOR SAFETY.—

''(A) EFFECT OF SECTION.—Nothing in this section prohibits the use of funds made available under other provisions of this title for highway safety improvement projects.

''(B) USE OF OTHER FUNDS.—States are encouraged to address the full scope of their safety needs and opportunities by using funds made available under other provisions of this title (except a provision that specifically prohibits that use).

''(e) FLEXIBLE FUNDING FOR STATES WITH A STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To further the implementation of a State strategic highway safety plan, a State may use up to 25 percent of the amount of funds made available under this section for a fiscal year to carry out safety projects under any other section as provided in the State strategic highway safety plan.

''(2) OTHER TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAY SAFETY PLANS.—Nothing in this subsection requires a State to revise any State process, plan, or program in effect on the date of enactment of this section.

''(f) REPORTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A State shall submit to the Secretary a report that—

''(A) describes progress being made to implement highway safety improvement projects under this section;

''(B) assesses the effectiveness of those improvements; and

''(C) describes the extent to which the improvements funded under this section contribute to the goals of—

''(i) reducing the number of fatalities on roadways;

''(ii) reducing the number of roadway-related injuries;

''(iii) reducing the occurrences of roadway-related crashes;

''(iv) mitigating the consequences of roadway-related crashes; and

''(v) reducing the occurrences of roadway-railroad grade crossing crashes.

''(2) CONTENTS; SCHEDULE.—The Secretary shall establish the content and schedule for a report under paragraph (1).

''(3) TRANSPARENCY.—The Secretary shall make reports under subsection (c)(1)(D) available to the public through—

''(A) the Internet site of the Department; and

''(B) such other means as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''(4) DISCOVERY AND ADMISSION INTO EVIDENCE OF CERTAIN REPORTS, SURVEYS, AND INFORMATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, reports, surveys, schedules, lists, or data compiled or collected for any purpose directly relating to paragraph (1) or subsection (c)(1)(D), or published by the Secretary in accordance with paragraph (3), shall not be subject to discovery or admitted into evidence in a Federal or State court proceeding or considered for other purposes in any action for damages arising from any occurrence at a location identified or addressed in such reports, surveys, schedules, lists, or other data.

''(g) FEDERAL SHARE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.—Except as provided in sections 120 and 130, the Federal share of the cost of a highway safety improvement project carried out with funds made available under this section shall be 90 percent.

''(h) FUNDS FOR BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY.—A State shall allocate for bicycle and pedestrian improvements in the State a percentage of the funds remaining after implementation of sections 130(e) and 150, in an amount that is equal to or greater than the percentage of all fatal crashes in the States involving bicyclists and pedestrians.

''(i) ROADWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS FOR OLDER DRIVERS AND PEDESTRIANS.—For each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, $25,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for projects in all States to improve traffic signs and pavement markings in a manner consistent with the recommendations included in the publication of the Federal Highway Administration entitled 'Guidelines and Recommendations to Accommodate Older Drivers and Pedestrians (FHWA-RD-01-103)' and dated October 2001.''.

(2) ALLOCATIONS OF APPORTIONED FUNDS.—Section 133(d) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (1);

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (5) as paragraphs (1) through (4), respectively;

(C) in paragraph (2) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B))—

(i) in the first sentence of subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking ''subparagraphs (C) and (D)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (C)''; and

(II) by striking ''80 percent'' and inserting ''90 percent'';

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''tobe'' and inserting ''to be'';

(iii) by striking subparagraph (C);

(iv) by redesignating subparagraphs (D) and (E) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively; and

(v) in subparagraph (C) (as redesignated by clause (iv)), by adding a period at the end; and

(D) in paragraph (4)(A) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B)), by striking ''paragraph (2)'' and inserting ''paragraph (1)''.

(3) ADMINISTRATION.—Section 133(e) of title 23, United States Code, is amended in each of paragraphs (3)(B)(i), (5)(A), and (5)(B) of subsection (e), by striking ''(d)(2)'' each place it appears and inserting ''(d)(1)''.

(4) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) The analysis for chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 148 and inserting the following:

''148. Highway safety improvement program.''.

(B) Section 104(g) of title 23, United States Code, is amended in the first sentence by striking ''sections 130, 144, and 152 of this title'' and inserting ''sections 130 and 144''.

(C) Section 126 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(i) in subsection (a), by inserting ''under'' after ''State's apportionment''; and

(ii) in subsection (b)—

(I) in the first sentence, by striking ''the last sentence of section 133(d)(1) or to section 104(f) or to section 133(d)(3)'' and inserting ''section 104(f) or 133(d)(2)''; and

(II) in the second sentence, by striking ''or 133(d)(2)''.

(D) Sections 154, 164, and 409 of title 23, United States Code, are amended by striking ''152'' each place it appears and inserting ''148''.

(b) APPORTIONMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUNDS.—Section 104(b) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting after ''Improvement program,'' the following: ''the highway safety improvement program,''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For the highway safety improvement program, in accordance with the following formula:

''(i) 25 percent of the apportionments in the ratio that—

''(I) the total lane miles of Federal-aid highways in each State; bears to

''(II) the total lane miles of Federal-aid highways in all States.

''(ii) 40 percent of the apportionments in the ratio that—

''(I) the total vehicle miles traveled on lanes on Federal-aid highways in each State; bears to

''(II) the total vehicle miles traveled on lanes on Federal-aid highways in all States.

''(iii) 35 percent of the apportionments in the ratio that—

''(I) the estimated tax payments attributable to highway users in each State paid into the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) in the latest fiscal year for which data are available; bears to

''(II) the estimated tax payments attributable to highway users in all States paid into the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) in the latest fiscal year for which data are available.

''(B) MINIMUM APPORTIONMENT.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), each State shall receive a minimum of ½ of 1 percent of the funds apportioned under this paragraph.''.

(c) ELIMINATION OF HAZARDS RELATING TO RAILWAY-HIGHWAY CROSSINGS.—

(1) FUNDS FOR RAILWAY-HIGHWAY CROSSINGS.—Section 130(e) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting before ''At least'' the following: ''For each fiscal year, at least $200,000,000 of the funds authorized and expended under section 148 shall be available for the elimination of hazards and the installation of protective devices at railway-highway crossings.''.

(2) BIENNIAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Section 130(g) of title 23, United States Code, is amended in the third sentence—

(A) by inserting ''and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation,'' after ''Public Works''; and

(B) by striking ''not later than April 1 of each year'' and inserting ''every other year''.

(3) EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS.—Section 130 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(k) EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS.—Funds made available to carry out this section shall be—

''(1) available for expenditure on compilation and analysis of data in support of activities carried out under subsection (g); and

''(2) apportioned in accordance with section 104(b)(5).''.

(d) TRANSITION.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall approve obligations of funds apportioned under section 104(b)(5) of title 23, United States Code (as added by subsection (b)) to carry out section 148 of that title, only if, not later than October 1 of the second fiscal year after the date of enactment of this Act, a State has developed and implemented a State strategic highway safety plan as required under section 148(c) of that title.

(2) INTERIM PERIOD.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Before October 1 of the second fiscal year after the date of enactment of this Act and until the date on which a State develops and implements a State strategic highway safety plan, the Secretary shall apportion funds to a State for the highway safety improvement program and the State may obligate funds apportioned to the State for the highway safety improvement program under section 148 for projects that were eligible for funding under sections 130 and 152 of that title, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) NO STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN.—If a State has not developed a strategic highway safety plan by October 1 of the second fiscal year after the date of enactment of this Act, but demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that progress is being made toward developing and implementing such a plan, the Secretary shall continue to apportion funds for 1 additional fiscal year for the highway safety improvement program under section 148 of title 23, United States Code, to the State, and the State may continue to obligate funds apportioned to the State under this section for projects that were eligible for funding under sections 130 and 152 of that title, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

(C) PENALTY.—If a State has not adopted a strategic highway safety plan by the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, funds made available to the State under section 1101(6) shall be redistributed to other States in accordance with section 104(b)(3) of title 23, United States Code.

SEC. 1402. OPERATION LIFESAVER.

Section 104(d)(1) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''subsection (b)(3)'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(5)''; and

(2) by striking ''$500,000'' and inserting ''$600,000''.

SEC. 1403. LICENSE SUSPENSION.

Section 164(a) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) LICENSE SUSPENSION.—The term 'license suspension' means—

''(A) the suspension of all driving privileges of an individual for the duration of the suspension period; or

''(B) a combination of suspension of all driving privileges of an individual for the first 90 days of the suspension period, followed by reinstatement of limited driving privileges requiring the individual to operate only motor vehicles equipped with an ignition interlock system or other device approved by the Secretary during the remainder of the suspension period.''.

SEC. 1404. BUS AXLE WEIGHT EXEMPTION.

Section 1023 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (23 U.S.C. 127 note; 105 Stat. 1951) is amended by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

''(h) OVER-THE-ROAD BUS AND PUBLIC TRANSIT VEHICLE EXEMPTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The second sentence of section 127 of title 23, United States Code (relating to axle weight limitations for vehicles using the Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways), shall not apply to—

''(A) any over-the-road bus (as defined in section 301 of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12181)); or

''(B) any vehicle that is regularly and exclusively used as an intrastate public agency transit passenger bus.

''(2) STATE ACTION.—No State or political subdivision of a State, or any political authority of 2 or more States, shall impose any axle weight limitation on any vehicle described in paragraph (1) in any case in which such a vehicle is using the Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways.''.

SEC. 1405. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter I of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 149 the following:

''§ 150. Safe routes to schools program

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term 'primary and secondary school' means a school that provides education to children in any of grades kindergarten through 12.

''(2) PROGRAM.—The term 'program' means the safe routes to schools program established under subsection (b).

''(3) VICINITY OF A SCHOOL.—The term 'vicinity of a school' means the area within 2 miles of a primary or secondary school.

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a safe routes to school program for the benefit of children in primary and secondary schools in accordance with this section.

''(c) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the program shall be—

''(1) to enable and to encourage children to walk and bicycle to school;

''(2) to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle by making walking and bicycling to school safer and more appealing transportation alternatives; and

''(3) to facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety in the vicinity of schools.

''(d) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—A State shall use amounts apportioned under this section to provide financial assistance to State, regional, and local agencies that demonstrate an ability to meet the requirements of this section.

''(e) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) INFRASTRUCTURE-RELATED PROJECTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Amounts apportioned to a State under this section may be used for the planning, design, and construction of infrastructure-related projects to encourage walking and bicycling to school, including—

''(i) sidewalk improvements;

''(ii) traffic calming and speed reduction improvements;

''(iii) pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements;

''(iv) on-street bicycle facilities;

''(v) off-street bicycle and pedestrian facilities;

''(vi) secure bicycle parking facilities;

''(vii) traffic signal improvements; and

''(viii) pedestrian-railroad grade crossing improvements.

''(B) LOCATION OF PROJECTS.—Infrastructure-related projects under subparagraph (A) may be carried out on—

''(i) any public road in the vicinity of a school; or

''(ii) any bicycle or pedestrian pathway or trail in the vicinity of a school.

''(2) BEHAVIORAL ACTIVITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to projects described in paragraph (1), amounts apportioned to a State under this section may be used for behavioral activities to encourage walking and bicycling to school, including—

''(i) public awareness campaigns and outreach to press and community leaders;

''(ii) traffic education and enforcement in the vicinity of schools; and

''(iii) student sessions on bicycle and pedestrian safety, health, and environment.

''(B) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts apportioned to a State under this section for a fiscal year, not less than 10 percent shall be used for behavioral activities under this paragraph.

''(f) FUNDING.—

''(1) SET ASIDE.—Before apportioning amounts to carry out section 148 for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall set aside and use $70,000,000 to carry out this section.

''(2) APPORTIONMENT.—Amounts made available to carry out this section shall be apportioned to States in accordance with section 104(b)(5).

''(3) ADMINISTRATION OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts apportioned to a State under this section shall be administered by the State transportation department.

''(4) FEDERAL SHARE.—Except as provided in sections 120 and 130, the Federal share of the cost of a project or activity funded under this section shall be 90 percent.

''(5) PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY.—Notwithstanding section 118(b)(2), amounts apportioned under this section shall remain available until expended.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 149 the following:

''150. Safe routes to school program.''.

SEC. 1406. PURCHASES OF EQUIPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 152 of title 23, United States Code is amended to read as follows:

''§ 152. Purchases of equipment

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), a State carrying out a project under this chapter shall purchase device, tool or other equipment needed for the project only after completing and providing a written analysis demonstrating the cost savings associated with purchasing the equipment compared with renting the equipment from a qualified equipment rental provider before the project commences

''(b) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall apply to—

''(1) earth moving, road machinery, and material handling equipment, or any other item, with a purchase price in excess of $75,000; and

''(2) aerial work platforms with a purchase price in excess of $25,000.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 152 and inserting the following:

''152. Purchases of equipment.''.

SEC. 1407. WORKZONE SAFETY.

Section 358(b) of the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (109 Stat. 625) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(7) Recommending all federally-assisted projects in excess of $15,000,000 to enter into contracts only with work zone safety services contractors, traffic control contractors, and trench safety and shoring contractors that carry general liability insurance in an amount not less than $15,000,000.

''(8) Recommending federally-assisted projects the costs of which exceed $15,000,000 to include work zone intelligent transportation systems that are—

''(A) provided by a qualified vendor; and

''(B) monitored continuously.

''(9) Recommending federally-assisted projects to fully fund not less than 5 percent of project costs for work zone safety and temporary traffic control measures, in addition to the cost of the project, which measures shall be provided by a qualified work zone safety or traffic control provider.

''(10) Ensuring that any recommendation made under any of paragraphs (7) through (9) provides for an exemption for applicability to a State, with respect to a project or class of projects, to the extent that a State notifies the Secretary in writing that safety is not expected to be adversely affected by nonapplication of the requirement to the project or class of projects.''.

SEC. 1408. WORKER INJURY PREVENTION AND FREE FLOW OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations—

(1) to decrease the probability of worker injury;

(2) to maintain the free flow of vehicular traffic by requiring workers whose duties place the workers on, or in close proximity to, a Federal-aid highway (as defined in section 101 of title 23, United States Code) to wear high-visibility clothing; and

(3) to require such other worker-safety measures for workers described in paragraph (2) as the Secretary determines appropriate.

SEC. 1409. IDENTITY AUTHENTICATION STANDARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1815(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 178. Identity authentication standards

''(a) DEFINITION OF INFORMATION-BASED IDENTITY AUTHENTICATION.—In this section, the term 'information-based identity authentication' means the determination of the identity of an individual, through the comparison of information provided by a person, with other information pertaining to that individual with a system using scoring models and algorithms.

''(b) STANDARDS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, shall promulgate regulations establishing minimum standards for State departments of motor vehicles regarding the use of information-based identity authentication to determine the identity of an applicant for a commercial driver's license, or the renewal, transfer or upgrading, of a commercial driver's license.

''(c) MINIMUM STANDARDS.—The regulations shall, at a minimum, require State departments of motor vehicles to implement, and applicants for commercial driver's licenses, (or the renewal, transfer, or upgrading of commercial driver's licenses), to comply with, reasonable procedures for operating an information-based identity authentication program before issuing, renewing, transferring, or upgrading a commercial driver's license.

''(d) KEY FACTORS.—In promulgating regulations under this section, the Secretary shall require that an information-based identity authentication program carried out under this section establish processes that—

''(1) use multiple sources of matching information;

''(2) enable the measurement of the accuracy of the determination of an applicant's identity;

''(3) support continuous auditing of compliance with applicable laws, policies, and practices governing the collection, use, and distribution of information in the operation of the program; and

''(4) incorporate industry best practices to protect significant privacy interests in the information used in the program and the appropriate safeguarding of the storage of the information.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter I of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1815(b)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''178. Identity authentication standards.''.

SEC. 1410. OPEN CONTAINER REQUIREMENTS.

Section 154 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

''(c) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall withhold the applicable percentage for the fiscal year of the amount required to be apportioned for Federal-aid highways to any State under each of paragraphs (1), (3), and (4) of section 104(b), if a State has not enacted or is not enforcing a provision described in subsection (b), as follows:

''For:	**The applicable percentage is:**
Fiscal year 2008	2 percent.
Fiscal year 2009	2 percent.
Fiscal year 2010	2 percent.
Fiscal year 2011 and each subsequent fiscal year.	2 percent.

''(2) RESTORATION.—If (during the 4-year period beginning on the date the apportionment for any State is reduced in accordance with this subsection) the Secretary determines that the State has enacted and is enforcing a provision described in subsection (b), the apportionment of the State shall be increased by an amount equal to the amount of the reduction made during the 4-year period.''.

Subtitle E—Environmental Planning and Review

CHAPTER 1—TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

SEC. 1501. INTEGRATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE CONCERNS INTO STATE AND METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING.

(a) METROPOLITAN PLANNING.—Section 134(f) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) by inserting after ''environment'' the following: ''(including the protection of habitat, water quality, and agricultural and forest land, while minimizing invasive species)''; and

(ii) by inserting before the semicolon the following: ''(including minimizing adverse health effects from mobile source air pollution and promoting the linkage of the transportation and development goals of the metropolitan area)''; and

(B) in subparagraph (G), by inserting ''and efficient use'' after ''preservation'';

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) SELECTION OF FACTORS.—After soliciting and considering any relevant public comments, the metropolitan planning organization shall determine which of the factors described in paragraph (1) are most appropriate for the metropolitan area to consider.''.

(b) STATEWIDE PLANNING.—Section 135(c) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) by inserting after ''environment'' the following: ''(including the protection of habitat, water quality, and agricultural and forest land, while minimizing invasive species)''; and

(ii) by inserting before the semicolon the following: ''(including minimizing adverse health effects from mobile source air pollution and promoting the linkage of the transportation and development goals of the State)''; and

(B) in subparagraph (G), by inserting ''and efficient use'' after ''preservation'';

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) SELECTION OF PROJECTS AND STRATEGIES.—After soliciting and considering any relevant public comments, the State shall determine which of the projects and strategies described in paragraph (1) are most appropriate for the State to consider.''.

SEC. 1502. CONSULTATION BETWEEN TRANSPORTATION AGENCIES AND RESOURCE AGENCIES IN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 134(g) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (D) as subparagraphs (C) through (E), respectively; and

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

''(B) MITIGATION ACTIVITIES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A long-range transportation plan shall include a discussion of—

''(I) types of potential habitat, hydrological, and environmental mitigation activities that may assist in compensating for loss of habitat, wetland, and other environmental functions; and

''(II) potential areas to carry out these activities, including a discussion of areas that may have the greatest potential to restore and maintain the habitat types and hydrological or environmental functions affected by the plan.

''(ii) CONSULTATION.—The discussion shall be developed in consultation with Federal, State, and tribal wildlife, land management, and regulatory agencies.'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (5), (6), and (7), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

''(4) CONSULTATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In each metropolitan area, the metropolitan planning organization shall consult, as appropriate, with State and local agencies responsible for land use management, natural resources, environmental protection, conservation, and historic preservation concerning the development of a long-range transportation plan.

''(B) ISSUES.—The consultation shall involve—

''(i) comparison of transportation plans with State conservation plans or with maps, if available;

''(ii) comparison of transportation plans to inventories of natural or historic resources, if available; or

''(iii) consideration of areas where wildlife crossing structures may be needed to ensure connectivity between wildlife habitat linkage areas.''.

(b) IMPROVED CONSULTATION DURING STATE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 135(e)(2) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(D) CONSULTATION, COMPARISON, AND CONSIDERATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The long-range transportation plan shall be developed, as appropriate, in consultation with State and local agencies responsible for—

''(I) land use management;

''(II) natural resources;

''(III) environmental protection;

''(IV) conservation; and

''(V) historic preservation.

''(ii) COMPARISON AND CONSIDERATION.—Consultation under clause (i) shall involve—

''(I) comparison of transportation plans to State conservation plans or maps, if available;

''(II) comparison of transportation plans to inventories of natural or historic resources, if available; or

''(III) consideration of areas where wildlife crossing structures may be needed to ensure connectivity between wildlife habitat linkage areas.''.

(2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—Section 135(e) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (6) and (7), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

''(4) MITIGATION ACTIVITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A long-range transportation plan shall include a discussion of—

''(i) types of potential habitat, hydrological, and environmental mitigation activities that may assist in compensating for loss of habitat, wetlands, and other environmental functions; and

''(ii) potential areas to carry out these activities, including a discussion of areas that may have the greatest potential to restore and maintain the habitat types and hydrological or environmental functions affected by the plan.

''(B) CONSULTATION.—The discussion shall be developed in consultation with Federal, State, and tribal wildlife, land management, and regulatory agencies.

''(5) TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIES.—A long-range transportation plan shall identify transportation strategies necessary to efficiently serve the mobility needs of people.''.

SEC. 1503. INTEGRATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE CONCERNS INTO TRANSPORTATION PROJECT PLANNING.

Section 109(c)(2) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''consider the results'' and inserting ''consider—

''(A) the results'';

(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) the publication entitled 'Flexibility in Highway Design' of the Federal Highway Administration;

''(C) 'Eight Characteristics of Process to Yield Excellence and the Seven Qualities of Excellence in Transportation Design' developed by the conference held during 1998 entitled 'Thinking Beyond the Pavement National Workshop on Integrating Highway Development with Communities and the Environment while Maintaining Safety and Performance'; and

''(D) any other material that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.''.

SEC. 1504. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND PROJECTS.

(a) METROPOLITAN PLANNING.—

(1) PARTICIPATION BY INTERESTED PARTIES.—Section 134(g)(5) of title 23, United States Code (as redesignated by section 1502(a)(1)), is amended—

(A) by striking ''Before approving'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Before approving''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) METHODS.—In carrying out subparagraph (A), the metropolitan planning organization shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

''(i) hold any public meetings at convenient and accessible locations and times;

''(ii) employ visualization techniques to describe plans; and

''(iii) make public information available in electronically accessible format and means, such as the World Wide Web.''.

(2) PUBLICATION OF LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANS.—Section 134(g)(6)(i) of title 23, United States Code (as redesignated by section 1502(a)(1)), is amended by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', including (to the maximum extent practicable) in electronically accessible formats and means such as the World Wide Web''.

(b) STATEWIDE PLANNING.—

(1) PARTICIPATION BY INTERESTED PARTIES.—Section 135(e)(3) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) METHODS.—In carrying out subparagraph (A), the State shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

''(i) hold any public meetings at convenient and accessible locations and times;

''(ii) employ visualization techniques to describe plans; and

''(iii) make public information available in electronically accessible format and means, such as the World Wide Web.''.

(2) PUBLICATION OF LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANS.—Section 135(e) of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1502(b)(2)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(8) PUBLICATION OF LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANS.—Each long-range transportation plan prepared by a State shall be published or otherwise made available, including (to the maximum extent practicable) in electronically accessible formats and means, such as the World Wide Web.''.

SEC. 1505. PROJECT MITIGATION.

(a) MITIGATION FOR NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM PROJECTS.—Section 103(b)(6)(M) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(i)'' after ''(M); and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) State habitat, streams, and wetlands mitigation efforts under section 155.''.

(b) MITIGATION FOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM PROJECTS.—Section 133(b)(11) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(A)'' after ''(11)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) State habitat, streams, and wetlands mitigation efforts under section 155.''.

(c) STATE HABITAT, STREAMS, AND WETLANDS MITIGATION FUNDS.—Section 155 of title 23, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 155. State habitat, streams, and wetlands mitigation funds

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—A State should establish a habitat, streams, and wetlands mitigation fund (referred to in this section as a 'State fund').

''(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of a State fund is to encourage efforts for habitat, streams, and wetlands mitigation in advance of or in conjunction with highway or transit projects to—

''(1) ensure that the best habitat, streams, and wetland mitigation sites now available are used; and

''(2) accelerate transportation project delivery by making high-quality habitat, streams, and wetland mitigation credits available when needed.

''(c) FUNDS.—A State may deposit into a State fund part of the funds apportioned to the State under—

''(1) section 104(b)(1) for the National Highway System; and

''(2) section 104(b)(3) for the surface transportation program.

''(d) USE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts deposited in a State fund shall be used (in a manner consistent with this section) for habitat, streams, or wetlands mitigation related to 1 or more projects funded under this title, including a project under the transportation improvement program of the State developed under section 135(f).

''(2) ENDANGERED SPECIES.—In carrying out this section, a State and cooperating agency shall give consideration to mitigation projects, on-site or off-site, that restore and preserve the best available sites to conserve biodiversity and habitat for—

''(A) Federal or State listed threatened or endangered species of plants and animals; and

''(B) plant or animal species warranting listing as threatened or endangered, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with section 4(b)(3)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533(b)(3)(B)).

''(3) MITIGATION IN CLOSED BASINS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A State may use amounts deposited in the State fund for projects to protect existing roadways from anticipated flooding of a closed basin lake, including—

''(i) construction—

''(I) necessary for the continuation of roadway services and the impoundment of water, as the State determines to be appropriate; or

''(II) for a grade raise to permanently restore a roadway the use of which is lost or reduced, or could be lost or reduced, as a result of an actual or predicted water level that is within 3 feet of causing inundation of the roadway in a closed lake basin;

''(ii) monitoring, studies, evaluations, design, or preliminary engineering relating to construction; and

''(iii) monitoring and evaluations relating to proposed construction.

''(B) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Secretary may permit a State that expends funds under subparagraph (A) to be reimbursed for the expenditures through the use of amounts made available under section 125(c)(1).

''(e) CONSISTENCY WITH APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS.—Contributions from the State fund to mitigation efforts may occur in advance of project construction only if the efforts are consistent with all applicable requirements of Federal law (including regulations).''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 155 and inserting the following:

''155. State habitat, streams, and wetlands mitigation funds.''.

CHAPTER 2—TRANSPORTATION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

SEC. 1511. TRANSPORTATION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1203(a)), is amended by inserting after section 325 the following:

''§ 326. Transportation project development process

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) AGENCY.—The term 'agency' means any agency, department, or other unit of Federal, State, local, or federally recognized tribal government.

''(2) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.—The term 'environmental impact statement' means a detailed statement of the environmental impacts of a project required to be prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

''(3) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'environmental review process' means the process for preparing, for a project—

''(i) an environmental impact statement; or

''(ii) any other document or analysis required to be prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.)

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'environmental review process' includes the process for and completion of any environmental permit, approval, review, or study required for a project under any Federal law other than the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

''(4) PROJECT.—The term 'project' means any highway or transit project that requires the approval of the Secretary.

''(5) PROJECT SPONSOR.—The term 'project sponsor' means an agency or other entity (including any private or public-private entity), that seeks approval of the Secretary for a project.

''(6) STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT.—The term 'State transportation department' means any statewide agency of a State with responsibility for transportation.

''(b) PROCESS.—

''(1) LEAD AGENCY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Department of Transportation shall be the lead Federal agency in the environmental review process for a project.

''(B) JOINT LEAD AGENCIES.—Nothing in this section precludes another agency from being a joint lead agency in accordance with regulations under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

''(C) CONCURRENCE OF PROJECT SPONSOR.—The lead agency may carry out the environmental review process in accordance with this section only with the concurrence of the project sponsor.

''(2) REQUEST FOR PROCESS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A project sponsor may request that the lead agency carry out the environmental review process for a project or group of projects in accordance with this section.

''(B) GRANT OF REQUEST; PUBLIC NOTICE.—The lead agency shall—

''(i) grant a request under subparagraph (A); and

''(ii) provide public notice of the request.

''(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The environmental review process described in this section may be applied to a project only after the date on which public notice is provided under subparagraph (B)(ii).

''(c) ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITY OF LEAD AGENCY.—With respect to the environmental review process for any project, the lead agency shall have authority and responsibility to—

''(A) identify and invite cooperating agencies in accordance with subsection (d);

''(B) develop an agency coordination plan with review, schedule, and timelines in accordance with subsection (e);

''(C) determine the purpose and need for the project in accordance with subsection (f);

''(D) determine the range of alternatives to be considered in accordance with subsection (g);

''(E) convene dispute-avoidance and decision resolution meetings and related efforts in accordance with subsection (h);

''(F) take such other actions as are necessary and proper, within the authority of the lead agency, to facilitate the expeditious resolution of the environmental review process for the project; and

''(G) prepare or ensure that any required environmental impact statement or other document required to be completed under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) is completed in accordance with this section and applicable Federal law.

''(d) ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF COOPERATING AGENCIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a project, each Federal agency shall carry out any obligations of the Federal agency in the environmental review process in accordance with this section and applicable Federal law.

''(2) INVITATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The lead agency shall—

''(i) identify, as early as practicable in the environmental review process for a project, any other agencies that may have an interest in the project, including—

''(I) agencies with jurisdiction over environmentally-related matters that may affect the project or may be required by law to conduct an environmental-related independent review or analysis of the project or determine whether to issue an environmental-related permit, license, or approval for the project; and

''(II) agencies with special expertise relevant to the project;

''(ii) invite the agencies identified in clause (i) to become participating agencies in the environmental review process for that project; and

''(iii) grant requests to become cooperating agencies from agencies not originally invited.

''(B) RESPONSES.—The deadline for receipt of a response from an agency that receives an invitation under subparagraph (A)(ii)—

''(i) shall be 30 days after the date of receipt by the agency of the invitation; but

''(ii) may be extended by the lead agency for good cause.

''(3) DECLINING OF INVITATIONS.—A Federal agency that is invited by the lead agency to participate in the environmental review process for a project shall be designated as a cooperating agency by the lead agency, unless the invited agency informs the lead agency in writing, by the deadline specified in the invitation, that the invited agency—

''(A) has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the project;

''(B) has no expertise or information relevant to the project; and

''(C) does not intend to submit comments on the project.

''(4) EFFECT OF DESIGNATION.—Designation as a cooperating agency under this subsection shall not imply that the cooperating agency—

''(A) supports a proposed project; or

''(B) has any jurisdiction over, or special expertise with respect to evaluation of, the project.

''(5) DESIGNATIONS FOR CATEGORIES OF PROJECTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may invite other agencies to become cooperating agencies for a category of projects.

''(B) DESIGNATION.—An agency may be designated as a cooperating agency for a category of projects only with the consent of the agency.

''(6) CONCURRENT REVIEWS.—Each Federal agency shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

''(A) carry out obligations of the Federal agency under other applicable law concurrently, and in conjunction, with the review required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), unless doing so would impair the ability of the Federal agency to carry out those obligations; and

''(B) formulate and implement administrative, policy, and procedural mechanisms to enable the agency to ensure completion of the environmental review process in a timely, coordinated, and environmentally responsible manner.

''(e) DEVELOPMENT OF FLEXIBLE PROCESS AND TIMELINE.—

''(1) COORDINATION PLAN.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The lead agency shall establish a coordination plan, which may be incorporated into a memorandum of understanding, to coordinate agency and public participation in and comment on the environmental review process for a project or category of projects.

''(B) WORKPLAN.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The lead agency shall develop, as part of the coordination plan, a workplan for completing the collection, analysis, and evaluation of baseline data and future impacts modeling necessary to complete the environmental review process, including any data, analyses, and modeling necessary for related permits, approvals, reviews, or studies required for the project under other laws.

''(ii) CONSULTATION.—In developing the workplan under clause (i), the lead agency shall consult with—

''(I) each cooperating agency for the project;

''(II) the State in which the project is located; and

''(III) if the State is not the project sponsor, the project sponsor.

''(C) SCHEDULE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The lead agency shall establish as part of the coordination plan, after consultation with each cooperating agency for the project and with the State in which the project is located (and, if the State is not the project sponsor, with the project sponsor), a schedule for completion of the environmental review process for the project.

''(ii) FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.—In establishing the schedule, the lead agency shall consider factors such as—

''(I) the responsibilities of cooperating agencies under applicable laws;

''(II) resources available to the cooperating agencies;

''(III) overall size and complexity of a project;

''(IV) the overall schedule for and cost of a project; and

''(V) the sensitivity of the natural and historic resources that could be affected by the project.

''(D) CONSISTENCY WITH OTHER TIME PERIODS.—A schedule under subparagraph (C) shall be consistent with any other relevant time periods established under Federal law.

''(E) MODIFICATION.—The lead agency may—

''(i) lengthen a schedule established under subparagraph (C) for good cause; and

''(ii) shorten a schedule only with the concurrence of the affected cooperating agencies.

''(F) DISSEMINATION.—A copy of a schedule under subparagraph (C), and of any modifications to the schedule, shall be—

''(i) provided to all cooperating agencies and to the State transportation department of the State in which the project is located (and, if the State is not the project sponsor, to the project sponsor); and

''(ii) made available to the public.

''(2) COMMENTS AND TIMELINES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A schedule established under paragraph (1)(C) shall include—

''(i) opportunities for comment, deadline for receipt of any comments submitted, deadline for lead agency response to comments; and

''(ii) except as otherwise provided under paragraph (1)—

''(I) an opportunity to comment by agencies and the public on a draft or final environmental impact statement for a period of not more than 60 days longer than the minimum period required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

''(II) for all other comment periods established by the lead agency for agency or public comments in the environmental review process, a period of not more than the longer of—

''(aa) 30 days after the final day of the minimum period required under Federal law (including regulations), if available; or

''(bb) if a minimum period is not required under Federal law (including regulations), 30 days.

''(B) EXTENSION OF COMMENT PERIODS.—The lead agency may extend a period of comment established under this paragraph for good cause.

''(C) LATE COMMENTS.—A comment concerning a project submitted under this paragraph after the date of termination of the applicable comment period or extension of a comment period shall not be eligible for consideration by the lead agency unless the lead agency or project sponsor determines there was good cause for the delay or the lead agency is required to consider significant new circumstances or information in accordance with sections 1501.7 and 1502.9 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations.

''(D) DEADLINES FOR DECISIONS UNDER OTHER LAWS.—In any case in which a decision under any Federal law relating to a project (including the issuance or denial of a permit or license) is required to be made by the later of the date that is 180 days after the date on which the Secretary made all final decisions of the lead agency with respect to the project, or 180 days after the date on which an application was submitted for the permit or license, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives—

''(i) as soon as practicable after the 180-day period, an initial notice of the failure of the Federal agency to make the decision; and

''(ii) every 60 day thereafter until such date as all decisions of the Federal agency relating to the project have been made by the Federal agency, an additional notice that describes the number of decisions of the Federal agency that remain outstanding as of the date of the additional notice.

''(3) INVOLVEMENT OF THE PUBLIC.—Nothing in this subsection shall reduce any time period provided for public comment in the environmental review process under existing Federal law (including a regulation).

''(f) DEVELOPMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to the environmental review process for a project, the purpose and need for the project shall be defined in accordance with this subsection.

''(2) AUTHORITY.—The lead agency shall define the purpose and need for a project, including the transportation objectives and any other objectives intended to be achieved by the project.

''(3) INVOLVEMENT OF COOPERATING AGENCIES AND THE PUBLIC.—Before determining the purpose and need for a project, the lead agency shall solicit for 30 days, and consider, any relevant comments on the draft statement of purpose and need for a proposed project received from the public and cooperating agencies.

''(4) EFFECT ON OTHER REVIEWS.—For the purpose of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and any other law requiring an agency that is not the lead agency to determine or consider a project purpose or project need, such an agency acting, permitting, or approving under, or otherwise applying, Federal law with respect to a project shall adopt the determination of purpose and need for the project made by the lead agency.

''(5) SAVINGS.—Nothing in this subsection preempts or interferes with any power, jurisdiction, responsibility, or authority of an agency under applicable law (including regulations) with respect to a project.

''(6) CONTENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The statement of purpose and need shall include a clear statement of the objectives that the proposed project is intended to achieve.

''(B) EFFECT ON EXISTING STANDARDS.—Nothing in this subsection shall alter existing standards for defining the purpose and need of a project.

''(7) FACTORS TO CONSIDER.—The lead agency may determine that any of the following factors and documents are appropriate for consideration in determining the purpose of and need for a project:

''(A) Transportation plans and related planning documents developed through the statewide and metropolitan transportation planning process under sections 134 and 135.

''(B) Land use plans adopted by units of State, local, or tribal government (or, in the case of Federal land, by the applicable Federal land management agencies).

''(C) Economic development plans adopted by—

''(i) units of State, local, or tribal government; or

''(ii) established economic development planning organizations or authorities.

''(D) Environmental protection plans, including plans for the protection or treatment of—

''(i) air quality;

''(ii) water quality and runoff;

''(iii) habitat needs of plants and animals;

''(iv) threatened and endangered species;

''(v) invasive species;

''(vi) historic properties; and

''(vii) other environmental resources.

''(E) Any publicly available plans or policies relating to the national defense, national security, or foreign policy of the United States.

''(g) DEVELOPMENT OF PROJECT ALTERNATIVES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to the environmental review process for a project, the alternatives shall be determined in accordance with this subsection.

''(2) AUTHORITY.—The lead agency shall determine the alternatives to be considered for a project.

''(3) INVOLVEMENT OF COOPERATING AGENCIES AND THE PUBLIC.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Before determining the alternatives for a project, the lead agency shall solicit for 30 days and consider any relevant comments on the proposed alternatives received from the public and cooperating agencies.

''(B) ALTERNATIVES.—The lead agency shall consider—

''(i) alternatives that meet the purpose and need of the project; and

''(ii) the alternative of no action.

''(C) EFFECT ON EXISTING STANDARDS.—Nothing in this subsection shall alter the existing standards for determining the range of alternatives.

''(4) EFFECT ON OTHER REVIEWS.—Any other agency acting under or applying Federal law with respect to a project shall consider only the alternatives determined by the lead agency.

''(5) SAVINGS.—Nothing in this subsection preempts or interferes with any power, jurisdiction, responsibility, or authority of an agency under applicable law (including regulations) with respect to a project.

''(6) FACTORS TO CONSIDER.—The lead agency may determine that any of the following factors and documents are appropriate for consideration in determining the alternatives for a project:

''(A) The overall size and complexity of the proposed action.

''(B) The sensitivity of the potentially affected resources.

''(C) The overall schedule and cost of the project.

''(D) Transportation plans and related planning documents developed through the statewide and metropolitan transportation planning process under sections 134 and 135 of title 23 of the United States Code.

''(E) Land use plans adopted by units of State, local, or tribal government (or, in the case of Federal land, by the applicable Federal land management agencies).

''(F) Economic development plans adopted by—

''(i) units of State, local, or tribal government; or

''(ii) established economic development planning organizations or authorities.

''(G) environmental protection plans, including plans for the protection or treatment of—

''(i) air quality;

''(ii) water quality and runoff;

''(iii) habitat needs of plants and animals;

''(iv) threatened and endangered species;

''(v) invasive species;

''(vi) historic properties; and

''(vii) other environmental resources.

''(H) Any publicly available plans or policies relating to the national defense, national security, or foreign policy of the United States.

''(h) PROMPT ISSUE IDENTIFICATION AND RESOLUTION PROCESS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The lead agency, the project sponsor, and the cooperating agencies shall work cooperatively, in accordance with this section, to identify and resolve issues that could—

''(A) delay completion of the environmental review process; or

''(B) result in denial of any approvals required for the project under applicable laws.

''(2) LEAD AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The lead agency, with the assistance of the project sponsor, shall make information available to the cooperating agencies, as early as practicable in the environmental review process, regarding—

''(i) the environmental and socioeconomic resources located within the project area; and

''(ii) the general locations of the alternatives under consideration.

''(B) BASIS FOR INFORMATION.—Information about resources in the project area may be based on existing data sources, including geographic information systems mapping.

''(3) COOPERATING AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Based on information received from the lead agency, cooperating agencies shall promptly identify to the lead agency any major issues of concern regarding the potential environmental or socioeconomic impacts of a project.

''(B) MAJOR ISSUES OF CONCERN.—A major issue of concern referred to in subparagraph (A) may include any issue that could substantially delay or prevent an agency from granting a permit or other approval that is needed for a project, as determined by a cooperating agency.

''(4) ISSUE RESOLUTION.—On identification of a major issue of concern under paragraph (3), or at any time upon the request of a project sponsor or the Governor of a State, the lead agency shall promptly convene a meeting with representatives of each of the relevant cooperating agencies, the project sponsor, and the Governor to address and resolve the issue.

''(5) NOTIFICATION.—If a resolution of a major issue of concern under paragraph (4) cannot be achieved by the date that is 30 days after the date on which a meeting under that paragraph is convened, the lead agency shall provide notification of the failure to resolve the major issue of concern to—

''(A) the heads of all cooperating agencies;

''(B) the project sponsor;

''(C) the Governor involved;

''(D) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate; and

''(E) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

''(i) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT.—

''(1) PROGRESS REPORTS.—The Secretary shall establish a program to measure and report on progress toward improving and expediting the planning and environmental review process.

''(2) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—The program shall include, at a minimum—

''(A) the establishment of criteria for measuring consideration of—

''(i) State and metropolitan planning, project planning, and design criteria; and

''(ii) environmental processing times and costs;

''(B) the collection of data to assess performance based on the established criteria; and

''(C) the annual reporting of the results of the performance measurement studies.

''(3) INVOLVEMENT OF THE PUBLIC AND COOPERATING AGENCIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall biennially conduct a survey of agencies participating in the environmental review process under this section to assess the expectations and experiences of each surveyed agency with regard to the planning and environmental review process for projects reviewed under this section.

''(B) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.—In conducting the survey, the Secretary shall solicit comments from the public.

''(j) ASSISTANCE TO AFFECTED FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may approve a request by a State or recipient to provide funds made available under this title for a highway project, or made available under chapter 53 of title 49 for a mass transit project, to agencies participating in the coordinated environmental review process established under this section in order to provide the resources necessary to meet any time limits established under this section.

''(2) AMOUNTS.—Such requests under paragraph (1) shall be approved only—

''(A) for such additional amounts as the Secretary determines are necessary for the affected Federal and State agencies to meet the time limits for environmental review; and

''(B) if those time limits are less than the customary time necessary for that review.

''(k) JUDICIAL REVIEW AND SAVINGS CLAUSE.—

''(1) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Nothing in this section shall affect the reviewability of any final Federal agency action in any United States district court or State court.

''(2) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section shall affect—

''(A) the applicability of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) or any other Federal environmental statute; or

''(B) the responsibility of any Federal officer to comply with or enforce such a statute.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The analysis for chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 325 (as added by section 1203(f)) the following:

''326. Transportation project development process.''.

(2) Section 1309 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (112 Stat. 232) is repealed.

SEC. 1512. ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1511(a)), is amended by inserting after section 326 the following:

''§ 327. Assumption of responsibility for categorical exclusions

''(a) CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may assign, and a State may assume, responsibility for determining whether certain designated activities are included within classes of action identified in regulation by the Secretary that are categorically excluded from requirements for environmental assessments or environmental impact statements pursuant to regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality under part 1500 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on October 1, 2003).

''(2) SCOPE OF AUTHORITY.—A determination described in paragraph (1) shall be made by a

State in accordance with criteria established by the Secretary and only for types of activities specifically designated by the Secretary.

''(3) CRITERIA.—The criteria under paragraph (2) shall include provisions for public availability of information consistent with section 552 of title 5 and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

''(b) OTHER APPLICABLE FEDERAL LAWS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If a State assumes responsibility under subsection (a), the Secretary may also assign and the State may assume all or part of the responsibilities of the Secretary for environmental review, consultation, or other related actions required under any Federal law applicable to activities that are classified by the Secretary as categorical exclusions, with the exception of government-to-government consultation with Indian tribes, subject to the same procedural and substantive requirements as would be required if that responsibility were carried out by the Secretary.

''(2) SOLE RESPONSIBILITY.—A State that assumes responsibility under paragraph (1) with respect to a Federal law shall be solely responsible and solely liable for complying with and carrying out that law, and the Secretary shall have no such responsibility or liability.

''(c) MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary and the State, after providing public notice and opportunity for comment, shall enter into a memorandum of understanding setting forth the responsibilities to be assigned under this section and the terms and conditions under which the assignments are made, including establishment of the circumstances under which the Secretary would reassume responsibility for categorical exclusion determinations.

''(2) TERM.—A memorandum of understanding—

''(A) shall have term of not more than 3 years; and

''(B) shall be renewable.

''(3) ACCEPTANCE OF JURISDICTION.—In a memorandum of understanding, the State shall consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the compliance, discharge, and enforcement of any responsibility of the Secretary that the State assumes.

''(4) MONITORING.—The Secretary shall—

''(A) monitor compliance by the State with the memorandum of understanding and the provision by the State of financial resources to carry out the memorandum of understanding; and

''(B) take into account the performance by the State when considering renewal of the memorandum of understanding.

''(d) TERMINATION.—The Secretary may terminate any assumption of responsibility under a memorandum of understanding on a determination that the State is not adequately carrying out the responsibilities assigned to the State.

''(e) STATE AGENCY DEEMED TO BE FEDERAL AGENCY.—A State agency that is assigned a responsibility under a memorandum of understanding shall be deemed to be a Federal agency for the purposes of the Federal law under which the responsibility is exercised.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1511(b)), is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 326 the following:

''327. Assumption of responsibility for categorical exclusions.''.

SEC. 1513. SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT DELIVERY PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1512(a)), is amended by inserting after section 327 the following:

''§ 328. Surface transportation project delivery pilot program

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a surface transportation project delivery pilot program (referred to in this section as the 'program').

''(2) ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the other provisions of this section, with the written agreement of the Secretary and a State, which may be in the form of a memorandum of understanding, the Secretary may assign, and the State may assume, the responsibilities of the Secretary with respect to 1 or more highway projects within the State under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

''(B) ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITY.—If a State assumes responsibility under subparagraph (A)—

''(i) the Secretary may assign to the State, and the State may assume, all or part of the responsibilities of the Secretary for environmental review, consultation, or other action required under any Federal environmental law pertaining to the review or approval of a specific project; but

''(ii) the Secretary may not assign—

''(I) responsibility for any conformity determination required under section 176 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7506); or

''(II) any responsibility imposed on the Secretary by section 134 or 135.

''(C) PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE REQUIREMENTS.—A State shall assume responsibility under this section subject to the same procedural and substantive requirements as would apply if that responsibility were carried out by the Secretary.

''(D) FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY.—Any responsibility of the Secretary not explicitly assumed by the State by written agreement under this section shall remain the responsibility of the Secretary.

''(E) NO EFFECT ON AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section preempts or interferes with any power, jurisdiction, responsibility, or authority of an agency, other than the Department of Transportation, under applicable law (including regulations) with respect to a project.

''(b) STATE PARTICIPATION.—

''(1) NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING STATES.—The Secretary may permit not more than 5 States (including the State of Oklahoma) to participate in the program.

''(2) APPLICATION.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations that establish requirements relating to information required to be contained in any application of a State to participate in the program, including, at a minimum—

''(A) the projects or classes of projects for which the State anticipates exercising the authority that may be granted under the program;

''(B) verification of the financial resources necessary to carry out the authority that may be granted under the program; and

''(C) evidence of the notice and solicitation of public comment by the State relating to participation of the State in the program, including copies of comments received from that solicitation.

''(3) PUBLIC NOTICE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each State that submits an application under this subsection shall give notice of the intent of the State to participate in the program not later than 30 days before the date of submission of the application.

''(B) METHOD OF NOTICE AND SOLICITATION.—The State shall provide notice and solicit public comment under this paragraph by publishing the complete application of the State in accordance with the appropriate public notice law of the State.

''(4) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary may approve the application of a State under this section only if—

''(A) the regulatory requirements under paragraph (2) have been met;

''(B) the Secretary determines that the State has the capability, including financial and personnel, to assume the responsibility; and

''(C) the head of the State agency having primary jurisdiction over highway matters enters into a written agreement with the Secretary described in subsection (c).

''(5) OTHER FEDERAL AGENCY VIEWS.—If a State applies to assume a responsibility of the Secretary that would have required the Secretary to consult with another Federal agency, the Secretary shall solicit the views of the Federal agency before approving the application.

''(c) WRITTEN AGREEMENT.—A written agreement under this section shall—

''(1) be executed by the Governor or the top-ranking transportation official in the State who is charged with responsibility for highway construction;

''(2) be in such form as the Secretary may prescribe;

''(3) provide that the State—

''(A) agrees to assume all or part of the responsibilities of the Secretary described in subsection (a);

''(B) expressly consents, on behalf of the State, to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the compliance, discharge, and enforcement of any responsibility of the Secretary assumed by the State;

''(C) certifies that State laws (including regulations) are in effect that—

''(i) authorize the State to take the actions necessary to carry out the responsibilities being assumed; and

''(ii) are comparable to section 552 of title 5, including providing that any decision regarding the public availability of a document under those State laws is reviewable by a court of competent jurisdiction; and

''(D) agrees to maintain the financial resources necessary to carry out the responsibilities being assumed.

''(d) JURISDICTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The United States district courts shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any civil action against a State for failure to carry out any responsibility of the State under this section.

''(2) LEGAL STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS.—A civil action under paragraph (1) shall be governed by the legal standards and requirements that would apply in such a civil action against the Secretary had the Secretary taken the actions in question.

''(3) INTERVENTION.—The Secretary shall have the right to intervene in any action described in paragraph (1).

''(e) EFFECT OF ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY.—A State that assumes responsibility under subsection (a)(2) shall be solely responsible and solely liable for carrying out, in lieu of the Secretary, the responsibilities assumed under subsection (a)(2), until the program is terminated as provided in subsection (i).

''(f) LIMITATIONS ON AGREEMENTS.—Nothing in this section permits a State to assume any rulemaking authority of the Secretary under any Federal law.

''(g) AUDITS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To ensure compliance by a State with any agreement of the State under subsection (c)(1) (including compliance by the State with all Federal laws for which responsibility is assumed under subsection (a)(2)), for each State participating in the program under this section, the Secretary shall conduct—

''(A) semiannual audits during each of the first 2 years of State participation; and

''(B) annual audits during each subsequent year of State participation.

''(2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY AND COMMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—An audit conducted under paragraph (1) shall be provided to the public for comment.

''(B) RESPONSE.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the period for public comment ends, the Secretary shall respond to public comments received under subparagraph (A).

''(h) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall submit to Congress an annual report that describes the administration of the program.

''(i) TERMINATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the program shall terminate on the date that is 6 years after the date of enactment of this section.

''(2) TERMINATION BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary may terminate the participation of any State in the program if—

''(A) the Secretary determines that the State is not adequately carrying out the responsibilities assigned to the State;

''(B) the Secretary provides to the State—

''(i) notification of the determination of noncompliance; and

''(ii) a period of at least 30 days during which to take such corrective action as the Secretary determines is necessary to comply with the applicable agreement; and

''(C) the State, after the notification and period provided under subparagraph (B), fails to take satisfactory corrective action, as determined by Secretary.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1512(b)), is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 327 the following:

''328. Surface transportation project delivery pilot program.''.

SEC. 1514. PARKS, RECREATION AREAS, WILDLIFE AND WATERFOWL REFUGES, AND HISTORIC SITES.

(a) PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS WITH DE MINIMIS IMPACTS.—

(1) TITLE 23.—Section 138 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''It is hereby'' and inserting the following:

''(a) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—It is''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) DE MINIMIS IMPACTS.—

''(1) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this section shall be considered to be satisfied with respect to an area described in paragraph (2) or (3) if the Secretary determines, in accordance with this subsection, that a transportation program or project will have a de minimis impact on the area.

''(B) CRITERIA.—In making any determination under this subsection, the Secretary shall consider to be part of a transportation program or project any avoidance, minimization, mitigation, or enhancement measures that are required to be implemented as a condition of approval of the transportation program or project.

''(2) HISTORIC SITES.—With respect to historic sites, the Secretary may make a finding of de minimis impact only if—

''(A) the Secretary has determined, in accordance with the consultation process required under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), that—

''(i) the transportation program or project will have no adverse effect on the historic site; or

''(ii) there will be no historic properties affected by the transportation program or project;

''(B) the finding of the Secretary has received written concurrence from the applicable State historic preservation officer or tribal historic preservation officer (and from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, if participating in the consultation); and

''(C) the finding of the Secretary has been developed in consultation with parties consulting as part of the process referred to in subparagraph (A).

''(3) PARKS, RECREATION AREAS, AND WILDLIFE AND WATERFOWL REFUGES.—With respect to parks, recreation areas, and wildlife or waterfowl refuges, the Secretary may make a finding of de minimis impact only if—

''(A) the Secretary has determined, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) (including public notice and opportunity for public review and comment), that the transportation program or project will not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes of the park, recreation area, or wildlife or waterfowl refuge eligible for protection under this section; and

''(B) the finding of the Secretary has received concurrence from the officials with jurisdiction over the park, recreation area, or wildlife or waterfowl refuge.''.

(2) TITLE 49.—Section 303 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking ''(c) The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(c) APPROVAL OF PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.—Subject to subsection (d), the Secretary''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(d) DE MINIMIS IMPACTS.—

''(1) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this section shall be considered to be satisfied with respect to an area described in paragraph (2) or (3) if the Secretary determines, in accordance with this subsection, that a transportation program or project will have a de minimis impact on the area.

''(B) CRITERIA.—In making any determination under this subsection, the Secretary shall consider to be part of a transportation program or project any avoidance, minimization, mitigation, or enhancement measures that are required to be implemented as a condition of approval of the transportation program or project.

''(2) HISTORIC SITES.—With respect to historic sites, the Secretary may make a finding of de minimis impact only if—

''(A) the Secretary has determined, in accordance with the consultation process required under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), that—

''(i) the transportation program or project will have no adverse effect on the historic site; or

''(ii) there will be no historic properties affected by the transportation program or project;

''(B) the finding of the Secretary has received written concurrence from the applicable State historic preservation officer or tribal historic preservation officer (and from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, if participating in the consultation); and

''(C) the finding of the Secretary has been developed in consultation with parties consulting as part of the process referred to in subparagraph (A).

''(3) PARKS, RECREATION AREAS, AND WILDLIFE AND WATERFOWL REFUGES.—With respect to parks, recreation areas, and wildlife or waterfowl refuges, the Secretary may make a finding of de minimis impact only if—

''(A) the Secretary has determined, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) (including public notice and opportunity for public review and comment), that the transportation program or project will not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes of the park, recreation area, or wildlife or waterfowl refuge eligible for protection under this section; and

''(B) the finding of the Secretary has received concurrence from the officials with jurisdiction over the park, recreation area, or wildlife or waterfowl refuge.''.

(b) CLARIFICATION OF EXISTING STANDARDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall (in consultation with affected agencies and interested parties) promulgate regulations that clarify the factors to be considered and the standards to be applied in determining the prudence and feasibility of alternatives under section 138 of title 23 and section 303 of title 49, United States Code.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The regulations—

(A) shall clarify the application of the legal standards to a variety of different types of transportation programs and projects depending on the circumstances of each case; and

(B) may include, as appropriate, examples to facilitate clear and consistent interpretation by agency decisionmakers.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary and the Transportation Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences shall jointly conduct a study on the implementation of this section and the amendments made by this section.

(2) COMPONENTS.—In conducting the study, the Secretary and the Transportation Research Board shall evaluate—

(A) the processes developed under this section and the amendments made by this section and the efficiencies that may result;

(B) the post-construction effectiveness of impact mitigation and avoidance commitments adopted as part of projects conducted under this section and the amendments made by this section; and

(C) the quantity of projects with impacts that are considered de minimis under this section and the amendments made by this section, including information on the location, size, and cost of the projects.

(3) REPORT REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary and the Transportation Research Board shall prepare—

(A) not earlier than the date that is 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, a report on the results of the study conducted under this subsection; and

(B) not later than September 30, 2009, an update on the report required under subparagraph (A).

(4) REPORT RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary and the Transportation Research Board shall—

(A) submit the report and update required under paragraph (3) to—

(i) the appropriate committees of Congress;

(ii) the Secretary of the Interior; and

(iii) the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; and

(B) make the report and update available to the public.

SEC. 1515. REGULATIONS.

Except as provided in section 1513, not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations necessary to implement the amendments made by chapter 1 and this chapter.

CHAPTER 3—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 1521. CRITICAL REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION.

Section 108 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) CRITICAL REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), funds apportioned to a State under this title may be used to pay the costs of acquiring any real property that is determined to be critical under paragraph (2) for a project proposed for funding under this title.

''(2) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Federal share of the costs referred to in paragraph (1) shall be eligible for reimbursement out of funds apportioned to a State under this title if, before the date of acquisition, the Secretary determines that—

''(A) the property is offered for sale on the open market;

''(B) in acquiring the property, the State will comply with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.); and

''(C) immediate acquisition of the property is critical because—

''(i) based on an appraisal of the property, the value of the property is increasing significantly;

''(ii) there is an imminent threat of development or redevelopment of the property; and

''(iii) the property is necessary for the implementation of the goals stated in the proposal for the project.

''(3) APPLICABLE LAW.—An acquisition of real property under this section shall be considered to be an exempt project under section 176 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7506).

''(4) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A project proposed to be conducted under this title shall not be conducted on property acquired under paragraph

''(1) until all required environmental reviews for the project have been completed.

''(B) EFFECT ON CONSIDERATION OF PROJECT ALTERNATIVES.—The number of critical acquisitions of real property associated with a project shall not affect the consideration of project alternatives during the environmental review process.

''(5) PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY.—Section 156(c) shall not apply to the sale, use, or lease of any real property acquired under paragraph (1).''.

SEC. 1522. PLANNING CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE.

Section 104 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(m) PLANNING CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a planning capacity building initiative to support enhancements in transportation planning to—

''(A) strengthen the processes and products of metropolitan and statewide transportation planning under this title;

''(B) enhance tribal capacity to conduct joint transportation planning under chapter 2;

''(C) participate in the metropolitan and statewide transportation planning programs under this title; and

''(D) increase the knowledge and skill level of participants in metropolitan and statewide transportation.

''(2) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority to planning practices and processes that support—

''(A) the transportation elements of homeland security planning, including—

''(i) training and best practices relating to emergency evacuation;

''(ii) developing materials to assist areas in coordinating emergency management and transportation officials; and

''(iii) developing training on how planning organizations may examine security issues;

''(B) performance-based planning, including—

''(i) data and data analysis technologies to be shared with States, metropolitan planning organizations, local governments, and nongovernmental organizations that—

''(I) participate in transportation planning;

''(II) use the data and data analysis to engage in metropolitan, tribal, or statewide transportation planning;

''(III) involve the public in the development of transportation plans, projects, and alternative scenarios; and

''(IV) develop strategies to avoid, minimize, and mitigate the impacts of transportation facilities and projects; and

''(ii) improvement of the quality of congestion management systems, including the development of—

''(I) a measure of congestion;

''(II) a measure of transportation system reliability; and

''(III) a measure of induced demand;

''(C) safety planning, including—

''(i) development of State strategic safety plans consistent with section 148;

''(ii) incorporation of work zone safety into planning; and

''(iii) training in the development of data systems relating to highway safety;

''(D) operations planning, including—

''(i) developing training of the integration of transportation system operations and management into the transportation planning process; and

''(ii) training and best practices relating to regional concepts of operations;

''(E) freight planning, including—

''(i) modeling of freight at a regional and statewide level; and

''(ii) techniques for engaging the freight community with the planning process;

''(F) air quality planning, including—

''(i) assisting new and existing nonattainment and maintenance areas in developing the technical capacity to perform air quality conformity analysis;

''(ii) providing training on areas such as modeling and data collection to support air quality planning and analysis;

''(iii) developing concepts and techniques to assist areas in meeting air quality performance timeframes; and

''(iv) developing materials to explain air quality issues to decisionmakers and the public; and

''(G) integration of environment and planning.

''(3) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall use amounts made available under paragraph (4) to make grants to, or enter into contracts, cooperative agreements, and other transactions with, a Federal agency, State agency, local agency, federally recognized Indian tribal government or tribal consortium, authority, association, nonprofit or for-profit corporation, or institution of higher education for research, program development, information collection and dissemination, and technical assistance.

''(4) SET-ASIDE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—On October 1 of each fiscal year, of the funds made available under subsection (a), the Secretary shall set aside $4,000,000 to carry out this subsection.

''(B) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of an activity carried out using funds made available under subparagraph (A) shall be 100 percent.

''(C) AVAILABILITY.—Funds made available under subparagraph (A) shall remain available until expended.''.

Subtitle F—Environment

SEC. 1601. ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND POLLUTION ABATEMENT; CONTROL OF INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIVE SPECIES.

(a) MODIFICATION TO NHS/STP FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, POLLUTION ABATEMENT, AND INVASIVE SPECIES.—

(1) MODIFICATIONS TO NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM.—Section 103(b)(6) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(Q) Environmental restoration and pollution abatement in accordance with section 165.

''(R) Control of invasive plant species and establishment of native species in accordance with section 166.''.

(2) MODIFICATIONS TO SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM.—Section 133(b) of title 23, is amended by striking paragraph (14) and inserting the following:

''(14) Environmental restoration and pollution abatement in accordance with section 165.

''(15) Control of invasive plant species and establishment of native species in accordance with section 166.''.

(b) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 165. Eligibility for environmental restoration and pollution abatement

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), environmental restoration and pollution abatement to minimize or mitigate the impacts of any transportation project funded under this title (including retrofitting and construction of storm water treatment systems to meet Federal and State requirements under sections 401 and 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1341, 1342)) may be carried out to address water pollution or environmental degradation caused wholly or partially by a transportation facility.

''(b) MAXIMUM EXPENDITURE.—In a case in which a transportation facility is undergoing reconstruction, rehabilitation, resurfacing, or restoration, the expenditure of funds under this section for environmental restoration or pollution abatement described in subsection (a) shall not exceed 20 percent of the total cost of the reconstruction, rehabilitation, resurfacing, or restoration of the facility.

''§ 166. Control of invasive plant species and establishment of native species

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES—The term 'invasive plant species' means a nonindigenous species the introduction of which causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

''(2) NATIVE PLANT SPECIES.—The term 'native plant species' means, with respect to a particular ecosystem, a species that, other than as result of an introduction, historically occurred or currently occurs in that ecosystem.

''(b) CONTROL OF SPECIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with all applicable Federal law (including regulations), funds made available to carry out this section may be used for—

''(A) participation in the control of invasive plant species; and

''(B) the establishment of native species.

''(2) INCLUDED ACTIVITIES.—The participation and establishment under paragraph (1) may include—

''(A) participation in statewide inventories of invasive plant species and desirable plant species;

''(B) regional native plant habitat conservation and mitigation;

''(C) native revegetation;

''(D) elimination of invasive species to create fuel breaks for the prevention and control of wildfires; and

''(E) training.

''(3) CONTRIBUTIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), an activity described in paragraph (1) may be carried out concurrently with, in advance of, or following the construction of a project funded under this title.

''(B) CONDITION FOR ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN ADVANCE OF PROJECT CONSTRUCTION.—An activity described in paragraph (1) may be carried out in advance of construction of a project only if the activity is carried out in accordance with all applicable requirements of Federal law (including regulations) and State transportation planning processes.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1406(b)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''165. Eligibility for environmental restoration and pollution abatement.

''166. Control of invasive plant species and establishment of native species.''.

SEC. 1602. NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 162 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking ''the roads as'' and all that follows and inserting ''the roads as—

''(A) National Scenic Byways;

''(B) All-American Roads; or

''(C) America's Byways.'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking ''designated as'' and all that follows and inserting ''designated as—

''(i) National Scenic Byways;

''(ii) All-American Roads; or

''(iii) America's Byways; and'';

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''Byway or All-American Road'' and inserting ''Byway, All-American Road, or 1 of America's Byways''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''designation as a'' and all that follows and inserting ''designation as—

''(i) a National Scenic Byway;

''(ii) an All-American Road; or

''(iii) 1 of America's Byways; and''; and

(3) in subsection (c)(4), by striking ''passing lane,''.

(b) RESEARCH, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, MARKETING, AND PROMOTION.—Section 162 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (d), (e), and (f) as subsections (e), (f), and (g), respectively;

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following:

''(d) RESEARCH, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, MARKETING, AND PROMOTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry out technical assistance, marketing, market research, and promotion with respect to State Scenic Byways, National Scenic Byways, All-American Roads, and America's Byways.

''(2) COOPERATION, GRANTS, AND CONTRACTS.—The Secretary may make grants to, or enter into contracts, cooperative agreements, and other transactions with, any Federal agency, State agency, authority, association, institution, for-profit or nonprofit corporation, organization, or person, to carry out projects and activities under this subsection.

''(3) FUNDS.—The Secretary may use not more than $2,000,000 for each fiscal year of funds made available for the National Scenic Byways Program to carry out projects and activities under this subsection.

''(4) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority under this subsection to partnerships that leverage Federal funds for research, technical assistance, marketing and promotion.''; and

(3) in subsection (g) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking ''80 percent'' and inserting ''the share applicable under section 120, as adjusted under subsection (d) of that section''.

SEC. 1603. RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM.

(a) RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM FORMULA.—Section 104(h)(1) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''Whenever'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which'';

(2) by striking ''research and technical assistance under the recreational trails program and for the administration of the National Recreational Trails Advisory Committee'' and inserting ''research, technical assistance, and training under the recreational trails program''; and

(3) by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(B) CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary''.

(b) RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.—Section 206 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) PERMISSIBLE USES.—Permissible uses of funds apportioned to a State for a fiscal year to carry out this section include—

''(A) maintenance and restoration of recreational trails;

''(B) development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages for recreational trails;

''(C) purchase and lease of recreational trail construction and maintenance equipment;

''(D) construction of new recreational trails, except that, in the case of new recreational trails crossing Federal land, construction of the trails shall be—

''(i) permissible under other law;

''(ii) necessary and recommended by a statewide comprehensive outdoor recreation plan that is—

''(I) required under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 460l–4 et seq.); and

''(II) in effect;

''(iii) approved by the administering agency of the State designated under subsection (c)(1)(A); and

''(iv) approved by each Federal agency having jurisdiction over the affected land, under such terms and conditions as the head of the Federal agency determines to be appropriate, except that the approval shall be contingent on compliance by the Federal agency with all applicable laws, including—

''(I) the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.);

''(II) the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1600 et seq.); and

''(III) the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.);

''(E) acquisition of easements and fee simple title to property for recreational trails or recreational trail corridors;

''(F) assessment of trail conditions for accessibility and maintenance;

''(G) use of trail crews, youth conservation or service corps, or other appropriate means to carry out activities under this section;

''(H) development and dissemination of publications and operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection, as those objectives relate to the use of recreational trails, supporting non-law enforcement trail safety and trail use monitoring patrol programs, and providing trail-related training, but in an amount not to exceed 5 percent of the apportionment made to the State for the fiscal year; and

''(I) payment of costs to the State incurred in administering the program, but in an amount not to exceed 7 percent of the apportionment made to the State for the fiscal year to carry out this section.''; and

(B) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''(2)(F)'' and inserting ''(2)(I)''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

''(E) USE OF YOUTH CONSERVATION OR SERVICE CORPS.—A State shall make available not less than 10 percent of the apportionments of the State to provide grants to, or to enter into cooperative agreements or contracts with, qualified youth conservation or service corps to perform recreational trails program activities.'';

(2) in subsection (f)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting ''and the Federal share of the administrative costs of a State'' after ''project''; and

(ii) by striking ''not exceed 80 percent'' and inserting ''be determined in accordance with section 120'';

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''80 percent of'' and inserting ''the amount determined in accordance with section 120 for''; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''sponsoring the project'' after ''Federal agency'';

(C) by striking paragraph (5);

(D) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5);

(E) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

''(4) USE OF RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM FUNDS TO MATCH OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAM FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available under this section may be used to pay the non-Federal matching share for other Federal program funds that are—

''(A) expended in accordance with the requirements of the Federal program relating to activities funded and populations served; and

''(B) expended on a project that is eligible for assistance under this section.''; and

(F) in paragraph (5) (as redesignated by subparagraph (D)), by striking ''80 percent'' and inserting ''the Federal share as determined in accordance with section 120''; and

(3) in subsection (h)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

''(C) PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT COSTS INCURRED PRIOR TO PROJECT APPROVAL.—A project funded under any of subparagraphs (A) through (H) of subsection (d)(2) may permit preapproval planning and environmental compliance costs incurred not more than 18 months before project approval to be credited toward the non-Federal share in accordance with subsection (f).''; and

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) WAIVER OF HIGHWAY PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—A project funded under this section—

''(A) is intended to enhance recreational opportunity;

''(B) is not considered to be a highway project; and

''(C) is not subject to—

''(i) section 112, 114, 116, 134, 135, 138, 217, or 301 of this title; or

''(ii) section 303 of title 49.''.

SEC. 1604. EXEMPTION OF INTERSTATE SYSTEM.

Subsection 103(c) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) EXEMPTION OF INTERSTATE SYSTEM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Interstate System shall not be considered to be a historic site under section 303 of title 49 or section 138 of this title, regardless of whether the Interstate System or portions of the Interstate System are listed on, or eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places.

''(B) INDIVIDUAL ELEMENTS.—A portion of the Interstate System that possesses an independent feature of historic significance, such as a historic bridge or a highly significant engineering feature, that would qualify independently for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, shall be considered to be a historic site under section 303 of title 49 or section 138 of this title, as applicable.''.

SEC. 1605. STANDARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 109(a) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) consider the preservation, historic, scenic, natural environmental, and community values.''.

(b) CONTEXT SENSITIVE DESIGN.—Section 109 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (p) and inserting the following:

''(p) CONTEXT SENSITIVE DESIGN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall encourage States to design projects funded under this title that—

''(A) allow for the preservation of environmental, scenic, or historic values;

''(B) ensure the safe use of the facility;

''(C) provide for consideration of the context of the locality;

''(D) encourage access for other modes of transportation; and

''(E) comply with subsection (a).

''(2) APPROVAL BY SECRETARY.—Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary may approve a project described in paragraph (1) for the National Highway System if the project is designed to achieve the criteria specified in that paragraph.''.

SEC. 1606. USE OF HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE LANES.

Section 102 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(a) HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE LANE PASSENGER REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) RESPONSIBLE AGENCY.—The term 'responsible agency' means—

''(i) a State transportation department; and

''(ii) a local agency in a State that is responsible for transportation matters.

''(B) SERIOUSLY DEGRADED.—The term 'seriously degraded', with respect to a high occupancy vehicle lane, means, in the case of a high occupancy vehicle lane, the minimum average operating speed, performance threshold, and associated time period of the high occupancy vehicle lane, calculated and determined jointly by

all applicable responsible agencies and based on conditions unique to the roadway, are unsatisfactory.

''(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), for each State, 1 or more responsible agencies shall establish the occupancy requirements of vehicles operating on high occupancy vehicle lanes.

''(B) MINIMUM NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), an occupancy requirement established under subparagraph (A) shall—

''(i) require at least 2 occupants per vehicle for a vehicle operating on a high occupancy vehicle lane; and

''(ii) in the case of a high occupancy vehicle lane that traverses an adjacent State, be established in consultation with the adjacent State.

''(3) EXCEPTIONS TO HOV OCCUPANCY REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) MOTORCYCLES.—For the purpose of this subsection, a motorcycle—

''(i) shall not be considered to be a single occupant vehicle; and

''(ii) shall be allowed to use a high occupancy vehicle lane unless a responsible agency—

''(I) certifies to the Secretary the use of a high occupancy vehicle lane by a motorcycle would create a safety hazard; and

''(II) restricts that the use of the high occupancy vehicle lane by motorcycles.

''(B) LOW EMISSION AND ENERGY-EFFICIENT VEHICLES.—

''(i) DEFINITION OF LOW EMISSION AND ENERGY-EFFICIENT VEHICLE.—In this subparagraph, the term 'low emission and energy-efficient vehicle' means a vehicle that has been certified by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency—

''(I)(aa) to have a 45-mile per gallon or greater fuel economy highway rating; or

''(bb) to qualify as an alternative fueled vehicle under section 301 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13211); and

''(II) as meeting Tier II emission level established in regulations promulgated by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under section 202(i) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7521(i)) for that make and model year vehicle.

''(ii) EXEMPTION FOR LOW EMISSION AND ENERGY-EFFICIENT VEHICLES.—A responsible agency may permit qualifying low emission and energy-efficient vehicles that do not meet applicable occupancy requirements (as determined by the responsible agency) to use high occupancy vehicle lanes if the responsible agency—

''(I) establishes a program that addresses how those qualifying low emission and energy-efficient vehicles are selected and certified;

''(II) establishes requirements for labeling qualifying low emission and energy-efficient vehicles (including procedures for enforcing those requirements);

''(III) continuously monitors, evaluates, and reports to the Secretary on performance; and

''(IV) imposes such restrictions on the use on high occupancy vehicle lanes by vehicles that do not satisfy established occupancy requirements as are necessary to ensure that the performance of individual high occupancy vehicle lanes, and the entire high occupancy vehicle lane system, will not become seriously degraded.

''(C) TOLLING OF VEHICLES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A responsible agency may permit vehicles, in addition to the vehicles described in paragraphs (A), (B), and (D) that do not satisfy established occupancy requirements, to use a high occupancy vehicle lane only if the responsible agency charges those vehicles a toll.

''(ii) APPLICABLE AUTHORITY.—In imposing a toll under clause (i), a responsible agency shall—

''(I) be subject to section 129;

''(II) establish a toll program that addresses ways in which motorists may enroll and participate in the program;

''(III) develop, manage, and maintain a system that will automatically collect the tolls from covered vehicles;

''(IV) continuously monitor, evaluate, and report on performance of the system;

''(V) establish such policies and procedures as are necessary—

''(aa) to vary the toll charged in order to manage the demand for use of high occupancy vehicle lanes; and

''(bb) to enforce violations; and

''(VI) establish procedures to impose such restrictions on the use of high occupancy vehicle lanes by vehicles that do not satisfy established occupancy requirements as are necessary to ensure that the performance of individual high occupancy vehicle lanes, and the entire high occupancy vehicle lane system, will not become seriously degraded.

''(D) DESIGNATED PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES.—

''(i) DEFINITION OF DESIGNATED PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE.—In this subparagraph, the term 'designated public transportation vehicle' means a vehicle that—

''(I) provides designated public transportation (as defined in section 221 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12141)); and

''(II)(aa) is owned or operated by a public entity; or

''(bb) is operated under a contract with a public entity.

''(ii) USE OF HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE LANES.—A responsible agency may permit designated public transportation vehicles that do not satisfy established occupancy requirements to use high occupancy vehicle lanes if the responsible agency—

''(I) requires the clear and identifiable labeling of each designated public transportation vehicle operating under a contract with a public entity with the name of the public entity on all sides of the vehicle;

''(II) continuously monitors, evaluates, and reports on performance of those designated public transportation vehicles; and

''(III) imposes such restrictions on the use of high occupancy vehicle lanes by designated public transportation vehicles as are necessary to ensure that the performance of individual high occupancy vehicle lanes, and the entire high occupancy vehicle lane system, will not become seriously degraded.

''(E) HOV LANE MANAGEMENT, OPERATION, AND MONITORING.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A responsible agency that permits any of the exceptions specified in this paragraph shall comply with clauses (ii) and (iii).

''(ii) PERFORMANCE MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND REPORTING.—A responsible agency described in clause (i) shall establish, manage, and support a performance monitoring, evaluation, and reporting program under which the responsible agency continuously monitors, assesses, and reports on the effects that any vehicle permitted to use a high occupancy vehicle lane under an exception under this paragraph may have on the operation of—

''(I) individual high occupancy vehicle lanes; and

''(II) the entire high occupancy vehicle lane system.

''(iii) OPERATION OF HOV LANE OR SYSTEM.—A responsible agency described in clause (i) shall limit use of, or cease to use, any of the exceptions specified in this paragraph if the presence of any vehicle permitted to use a high occupancy vehicle lane under an exception under this paragraph seriously degrades the operation of—

''(I) individual high occupancy vehicle lanes; and

''(II) the entire high occupancy vehicle lane system.''.

SEC. 1607. BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION AND PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 217 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by inserting ''pedestrian and'' after ''safe'';

(2) in subsection (e), by striking ''bicycles'' each place it appears and inserting ''pedestrians or bicyclists'';

(3) by striking subsection (f) and inserting the following:

''(f) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the construction of bicycle transportation facilities and pedestrian walkways, and for carrying out nonconstruction projects relating to safe pedestrian and bicycle use, shall be determined in accordance with section 120(b).'';

(4) by redesignating subsection (j) as subsection (k);

(5) by inserting after subsection (i) the following:

''(j) BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall select and make grants to a national, nonprofit organization engaged in promoting bicycle and pedestrian safety—

''(A) to operate a national bicycle and pedestrian clearinghouse;

''(B) to develop information and educational programs regarding walking and bicycling; and

''(C) to disseminate techniques and strategies for improving bicycle and pedestrian safety.

''(2) FUNDING.—The Secretary may use funds set aside under section 104(n) to carry out this subsection.

''(3) APPLICABILITY OF TITLE 23.—Funds authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under section 104, except that the funds shall remain available until expended.''; and

(6) in subsection (k) (as redesignated by paragraph (4))—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

''(4) SHARED USE PATH.—The term 'shared use path' means a multiuse trail or other path that is—

''(A) physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier, either within a highway right-of-way or within an independent right-of-way; and

''(B) usable for transportation purposes (including by pedestrians, bicyclists, skaters, equestrians, and other nonmotorized users).''.

(b) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Section 104 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1522), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(n) BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY GRANTS.—On October 1 of each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, the Secretary, after making the deductions authorized by subsections (a) and (f), shall set aside $500,000 of the remaining funds apportioned under subsection (b)(3) for use in carrying out the bicycle and pedestrian safety grant program under section 217.''.

SEC. 1608. IDLING REDUCTION FACILITIES IN INTERSTATE RIGHTS-OF-WAY.

Section 111 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) IDLING REDUCTION FACILITIES IN INTERSTATE RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), a State may—

''(A) permit electrification or other idling reduction facilities and equipment, for use by motor vehicles used for commercial purposes, to be placed in rest and recreation areas, and in safety rest areas, constructed or located on rights-of-way of the Interstate System in the State, so long as those idling reduction measures do not—

''(i) reduce the existing number of designated truck parking spaces at any given rest or recreation area; or

''(ii) preclude the use of those spaces by trucks employing alternative idle reduction technologies; and

''(B) charge a fee, or permit the charging of a fee, for the use of those parking spaces actively providing power to a truck to reduce idling.

''(2) PURPOSE.—The exclusive purpose of the facilities described in paragraph (1) (or similar technologies) shall be to enable operators of motor vehicles used for commercial purposes—

''(A) to reduce idling of a truck while parked in the rest or recreation area; and

''(B) to use installed or other equipment specifically designed to reduce idling of a truck, or provide alternative power for supporting driver comfort, while parked.''.

SEC. 1609. TOLL PROGRAMS.

(a) INTERSTATE SYSTEM RECONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION PILOT PROGRAM.—Section 1216(b) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (23 U.S.C. 129 note; 112 Stat. 212)—

(1) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting ''Notwithstanding section 301, the Secretary''; and

(ii) by striking ''that could not otherwise be adequately maintained or functionally improved without the collection of tolls'';

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

''(C) An analysis demonstrating that financing the reconstruction or rehabilitation of the facility with the collection of tolls under this pilot program is the most efficient, economical, or expeditious way to advance the project.'';

(C) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

''(A) the State's analysis showing that financing the reconstruction or rehabilitation of a facility with the collection of tolls under the pilot program is the most efficient, economical, or expeditious way to advance the project;'';

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) the facility needs reconstruction or rehabilitation, including major work that may require replacing sections of the existing facility on new alignment;'';

(iii) by striking subparagraph (C); and

(iv) by redesignating subparagraphs (D) and (E) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively;

(2) is redesignated as subsection (d) of section 129 of title 23, United States Code, and moved to appear at the end of that section; and

(3) by striking ''of title 23, United States Code'' each place it appears.

(b) FAST AND SENSIBLE TOLL (FAST) LANES PROGRAM.—Section 129 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by subsection (a)(2)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) FAST AND SENSIBLE TOLL (FAST) LANES PROGRAM.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) ELIGIBLE TOLL FACILITY.—The term 'eligible toll facility' includes—

''(i) a facility in existence on the date of enactment of this subsection that collects tolls;

''(ii) a facility in existence on the date of enactment of this subsection, including a facility that serves high occupancy vehicles;

''(iii) a facility modified or constructed after the date of enactment of this subsection to create additional tolled capacity (including a facility constructed by a private entity or using private funds); and

''(iv) in the case of a new lane added to a previously non-tolled facility, only the new lane.

''(B) NONATTAINMENT AREA.—The term 'nonattainment area' has the meaning given the term in section 171 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7501).

''(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—Notwithstanding sections 129 and 301, the Secretary shall permit a State, public authority, or a public or private entity designated by a State, to collect a toll from motor vehicles at an eligible toll facility for any highway, bridge, or tunnel, including facilities on the Interstate System—

''(A) to manage high levels of congestion;

''(B) to reduce emissions in a nonattainment area or maintenance area; or

''(C) to finance the expansion of a highway, for the purpose of reducing traffic congestion, by constructing 1 or more additional lanes (including bridge, tunnel, support, and other structures necessary for that construction) on the Interstate System.

''(3) LIMITATION ON USE OF REVENUES.—

''(A) USE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Toll revenues received under paragraph (2) shall be used by a State, public authority, or private entity designated by a State, for—

''(I) debt service for debt incurred on 1 or more highway or transit projects carried out under this title or title 49;

''(II) a reasonable return on investment of any private financing;

''(III) the costs necessary for proper operation and maintenance of any facilities under paragraph (2) (including reconstruction, resurfacing, restoration, and rehabilitation); or

''(IV) if the State, public authority, or private entity annually certifies that the tolled facility is being adequately operated and maintained, any other purpose relating to a highway or transit project carried out under this title or title 49.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(i) VARIABLE PRICE REQUIREMENT.—A facility that charges tolls under this subsection may establish a toll that varies in price according to time of day or level of traffic, as appropriate to manage congestion or improve air quality.

''(ii) HOV VARIABLE PRICING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall require, for each high occupancy vehicle facility that charges tolls under this subsection, that the tolls vary in price according to time of day or level of traffic, as appropriate to manage congestion or improve air quality.

''(iii) HOV PASSENGER REQUIREMENTS.—In addition to the exceptions to the high occupancy vehicle passenger requirements established under section 102(a)(2), a State may permit motor vehicles with fewer than 2 occupants to operate in high occupancy vehicle lanes as part of a variable toll pricing program established under this subsection.

''(C) AGREEMENT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Before the Secretary may permit a facility to charge tolls under this subsection, the Secretary and the applicable State, public authority, or private entity designated by a State shall enter into an agreement for each facility incorporating the conditions described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

''(ii) TERMINATION.—An agreement under clause (i) shall terminate with respect to a facility upon the decision of the State, public authority, or private entity designated by a State to discontinue the variable tolling program under this subsection for the facility.

''(iii) DEBT.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—If there is any debt outstanding on a facility at the time at which the decision is made to discontinue the program under this subsection with respect to the facility, the facility may continue to charge tolls in accordance with the terms of the agreement until such time as the debt is retired.

''(II) NOTICE.—On retirement of the debt of a tolled facility, the applicable State, public authority, or private entity designated by a State shall provide notice to the public of that retirement.

''(D) LIMITATION ON FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project on a facility tolled under this subsection, including a project to install the toll collection facility shall be a percentage, not to exceed 80 percent, determined by the applicable State.

''(4) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to participate in the program under this subsection, a State, public authority, or private entity designated by a State shall provide to the Secretary—

''(A) a description of the congestion or air quality problems sought to be addressed under the program;

''(B) a description of—

''(i) the goals sought to be achieved under the program; and

''(ii) the performance measures that would be used to gauge the success made toward reaching those goals; and

''(C) such other information as the Secretary may require.

''(5) AUTOMATION.—Fees collected from motorists using a FAST lane shall be collected only through the use of noncash electronic technology that optimizes the free flow of traffic on the tolled facility.

''(6) INTEROPERABILITY.—

''(A) RULE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall promulgate a final rule specifying requirements, standards, or performance specifications for automated toll collection systems implemented under this section.

''(ii) DEVELOPMENT.—In developing that rule, which shall be designed to maximize the interoperability of electronic collection systems, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

''(I) seek to accelerate progress toward the national goal of achieving a nationwide interoperable electronic toll collection system;

''(II) take into account the use of noncash electronic technology currently deployed within an appropriate geographical area of travel and the noncash electronic technology likely to be in use within the next 5 years; and

''(III) seek to minimize additional costs and maximize convenience to users of toll facility and to the toll facility owner or operator.

''(B) FUTURE MODIFICATIONS.—As the state of technology progresses, the Secretary shall modify the rule promulgated under subparagraph (A), as appropriate.

''(7) REPORTING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation with State and local agencies and other program participants and with opportunity for public comment, shall—

''(i) develop and publish performance goals for each FAST lane project;

''(ii) establish a program for regular monitoring and reporting on the achievement of performance goals, including—

''(I) effects on travel, traffic, and air quality;

''(II) distribution of benefits and burdens;

''(III) use of alternative transportation modes; and

''(IV) use of revenues to meet transportation or impact mitigation needs.

''(B) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives—

''(i) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter, a report that describes in detail the uses of funds under this subsection in accordance with paragraph (8)(D); and

''(ii) not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, and every 3 years thereafter, a report that describes any success of the program under this subsection in meeting congestion reduction and other performance goals established for FAST lane programs.

''(8) FUNDING.—

''(A) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out pre-implementation studies and post-implementation evaluations of projects planned or implemented under this subsection $11,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

''(B) AVAILABILITY.—Funds allocated by the Secretary to a State under this subsection shall remain available for obligation by the State for

a period of 3 years after the last day of the fiscal year for which the funds were authorized.

''(C) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—Funds authorized to be appropriated under this paragraph shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under this chapter, except that the Federal share of the cost of any project carried out under this subsection and the availability of funds authorized by this paragraph shall be determined in accordance with this subsection.

''(D) PROGRAM PROMOTION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Secretary shall use an amount not to exceed 2 percent of the funds made available under subparagraph (A)—

''(i) to make grants to promote the purposes of the program under this subsection;

''(ii) to provide technical support to State and local governments or other public or private entities involved in implementing or considering FAST lane programs; and

''(iii) to conduct research on variable pricing that will support State or local efforts to initiate those pricing requirements.

''(E) EFFECT ON OTHER APPORTIONMENTS AND ALLOCATIONS.—Revenues collected from tolls established under this subsection shall not be taken into account in determining the apportionments and allocations that any State or transportation district within a State shall be entitled to receive under or in accordance with this chapter.

''(9) COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary shall ensure that any project or activity carried out under this section complies with requirements under section 106 of this title and section 307 of title 49.

''(10) VOLUNTARY USE.—Nothing in this subsection requires any highway user to use a FAST lane.

''(11) ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in this subsection affects any environmental requirement applicable to the construction or operation of an eligible toll facility under this title or any other provision of law.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1012 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (23 U.S.C. 149 note; 105 Stat. 1938; 112 Stat. 211) is amended by striking subsection (b).

(2) CONTINUATION OF PROGRAM.—Notwithstanding the amendment made by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall monitor and allow any value pricing program established under a cooperative agreement in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act to continue.

SEC. 1610. FEDERAL REFERENCE METHOD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6102 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (42 U.S.C. 7407 note; 112 Stat. 464) is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e) FIELD STUDY.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004, the Administrator shall—

''(1) conduct a field study of the ability of the $PM_{2.5}$ Federal Reference Method to differentiate those particles that are larger than 2.5 micrometers in diameter;

''(2) develop a Federal reference method to measure directly particles that are larger than 2.5 micrometers in diameter without reliance on subtracting from coarse particle measurements those particles that are equal to or smaller than 2.5 micrometers in diameter;

''(3) develop a method of measuring the composition of coarse particles; and

''(4) submit a report on the study and responsibilities of the Administrator under paragraphs (1) through (3) to—

''(A) the Committee on Commerce of the House of Representatives; and

''(B) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate.''.

SEC. 1611. ADDITION OF PARTICULATE MATTER AREAS TO CMAQ.

Section 104(b)(2) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''ozone or carbon monoxide'' and inserting ''ozone, carbon monoxide, or fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$)'';

(B) by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:

''(i) 1.0, if at the time of apportionment, the area is a maintenance area;'';

(C) in clause (vi), by striking ''or'' after the semicolon; and

(D) in clause (vii)—

(i) by striking ''area as described in section 149(b) for ozone,'' and inserting ''area for ozone (as described in section 149(b) or for PM–2.5''; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(viii) 1.0 if, at the time of apportionment, any county that is not designated as a nonattainment or maintenance area under the 1-hour ozone standard is designated as nonattainment under the 8-hour ozone standard; or

''(ix) 1.2 if, at the time of apportionment, the area is not a nonattainment or maintenance area as described in section 149(b) for ozone or carbon monoxide, but is an area designated nonattainment under the PM–2.5 standard.'';

(3) by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

''(C) ADDITIONAL ADJUSTMENT FOR CARBON MONOXIDE AREAS.—If, in addition to being designated as a nonattainment or maintenance area for ozone as described in section 149(b), any county within the area was also classified under subpart 3 of part D of title I of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7512 et seq.) as a nonattainment or maintenance area described in section 149(b) for carbon monoxide, the weighted nonattainment or maintenance area population of the county, as determined under clauses (i) through (vi) or clause (viii) of subparagraph (B), shall be further multiplied by a factor of 1.2.'';

(4) by redesignating subparagraph (D) and (E) as subparagraphs (E) and (F) respectively; and

(5) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

''(D) ADDITIONAL ADJUSTMENT FOR PM 2.5 AREAS.—If, in addition to being designated as a nonattainment or maintenance area for ozone or carbon monoxide, or both as described in section 149(b), any county within the area was also designated under the PM–2.5 standard as a nonattainment or maintenance area, the weighted nonattainment or maintenance area population of those counties shall be further multiplied by a factor of 1.2.''.

SEC. 1612. ADDITION TO CMAQ-ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.

(a) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—Section 149(b) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) if the project or program is for the purchase of alternative fuel (as defined in section 301 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13211)) or biodiesel; or

''(7) if the project or program involves the purchase of integrated, interoperable emergency communications equipment.''.

(b) STATES RECEIVING MINIMUM APPORTIONMENT.—Section 149(c) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''for any project eligible under the surface transportation program under section 133.'' and inserting the following: ''for any project in the State that—

''(A) would otherwise be eligible under this section as if the project were carried out in a nonattainment or maintenance area; or

''(B) is eligible under the surface transportation program under section 133.''; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking ''for any project in the State eligible under section 133.'' and inserting the following: ''for any project in the State that—

''(A) would otherwise be eligible under this section as if the project were carried out in a nonattainment or maintenance area; or

''(B) is eligible under the surface transportation program under section 133.''.

(c) RESPONSIBILITY OF STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall be responsible for ensuring that subrecipients of Federal funds within the State under section 149 of title 23, United States Code, have emission reduction strategies for fleets that are—

(A) used in construction projects located in nonattainment and maintenance areas; and

(B) funded under title 23, United States Code.

(2) EMISSION REDUCTION STRATEGIES.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in consultation with the Secretary, shall develop a nonbinding list of emission reduction strategies and supporting technical information for each strategy, including—

(A) contract preferences;

(B) requirements for the use of anti-idling equipment;

(C) diesel retrofits; and

(D) such other matters as the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in consultation with the Secretary, determine to be appropriate.

(3) USE OF CMAQ FUNDS.—A State may use funds made available under this title and title 23, United States Code, for the congestion mitigation and air quality program under section 149 of title 23, United States Code, to ensure the deployment of the emission reduction strategies described in paragraph (1).

SEC. 1613. IMPROVED INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION.

Section 149 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(g) INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall encourage States and metropolitan planning organizations to consult with State and local air quality agencies in nonattainment and maintenance areas on the estimated emission reductions from proposed congestion mitigation and air quality improvement programs and projects.''.

SEC. 1614. EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT OF CMAQ PROJECTS.

Section 149 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h) EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT OF PROJECTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall evaluate and assess a representative sample of projects funded under the congestion mitigation and air quality program to—

''(A) determine the direct and indirect impact of the projects on air quality and congestion levels; and

''(B) ensure the effective implementation of the program.

''(2) DATABASE.—Using appropriate assessments of projects funded under the congestion mitigation and air quality program and results from other research, the Secretary shall maintain and disseminate a cumulative database describing the impacts of the projects.

''(3) CONSIDERATION.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall consider the recommendations and findings of the report submitted to Congress under section 1110(e) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (112 Stat. 144), including recommendations and findings that would improve the operation and evaluation of the congestion mitigation and air quality improvement program under section 149.''.

SEC. 1615. SYNCHRONIZED PLANNING AND CONFORMITY TIMELINES, REQUIREMENTS, AND HORIZON.

(a) METROPOLITAN PLANNING.—

(1) DEVELOPMENT OF LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.—Section 134(g)(1) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking ''periodically, according to a schedule that the Secretary determines to be appropriate,'' and inserting ''every 4 years (or more frequently, in a case in which the metropolitan planning organization elects to update a transportation plan more frequently) in areas designated as nonattainment, as defined in section 107(d) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7407(d)), and in areas that were nonattainment that have been redesignated to attainment in accordance with section 107(d)(3) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 7407(d)(3)), with a maintenance plan under section 175A of that Act (42 U.S.C. 7505a), or every 5 years (or more frequently, in a case in which the metropolitan planning organization elects to update a transportation plan more frequently) in areas designated as attainment (as defined in section 107(d) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 7407(d))),''.

(2) METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—Section 134(h) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(D), by striking ''2 years'' and inserting ''4 years''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking ''3-year'' and inserting ''4-year''.

(3) STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—Section 135(f)(1)(A) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting after ''program'' the following: ''(which program shall cover a period of 4 years and be updated every 4 years)''.

(4) FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations that are consistent with the amendments made by this subsection.

(b) SYNCHRONIZED CONFORMITY DETERMINATION.—Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7506(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking ''(2) Any transportation plan'' and inserting the following:

''(2) TRANSPORTATION PLANS AND PROGRAMS.—Any transportation plan'';

(B) in subparagraph (C)(iii), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(C) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) by striking ''Any project'' and inserting ''any transportation project''; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(E) the appropriate metropolitan planning organization shall redetermine conformity of existing transportation plans and programs not later than 2 years after the date on which the Administrator—

''(i) finds a motor vehicle emissions budget to be adequate in accordance with section 93.118(e)(4) of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on October 1, 2003);

''(ii) approves an implementation plan that establishes a motor vehicle emissions budget, if that budget has not yet been used in a conformity determination prior to approval; or

''(iii) promulgates an implementation plan that establishes or revises a motor vehicle emissions budget.'';

(2) in paragraph (4)(B)(ii), by striking ''but in no case shall such determinations for transportation plans and programs be less frequent than every 3 years; and'' and inserting ''but the frequency for making conformity determinations on updated transportation plans and programs shall be every 4 years, except in a case in which—

''(I) the metropolitan planning organization elects to update a transportation plan or program more frequently; or

''(II) the metropolitan planning organization is required to determine conformity in accordance with paragraph (2)(E); and'';

(3) in paragraph (4)(B)—

(A) in clause (ii), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in clause (iii), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(iv) address the effects of the most recent population, economic, employment, travel, transit ridership, congestion, and induced travel demand information in the development and application of the latest travel and emissions models.'';

(4) by adding at the end the following:

''(7) CONFORMITY HORIZON FOR TRANSPORTATION PLANS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of this section, a transportation plan in a nonattainment or maintenance area shall be considered to be a transportation plan or a portion of a transportation plan that extends for the longest of the following periods:

''(i) The first 10-year period of any such transportation plan.

''(ii) The latest year in the implementation plan applicable to the area that contains a motor vehicle emission budget.

''(iii) The year after the completion date of a regionally significant project, if the project requires approval before the subsequent conformity determination.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—In a case in which an area has a revision to an implementation plan under section 175A(b) and the Administrator has found the motor vehicle emissions budgets from that revision to be adequate in accordance with section 93.118(e)(4) of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on October 1, 2003), or has approved the revision, the transportation plan shall be considered to be a transportation plan or portion of a transportation plan that extends through the last year of the implementation plan required under section 175A(b).

''(8) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT PROJECT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'regionally significant project' means a transportation project that is on a facility that serves a regional transportation need, including—

''(I) access to and from the area outside of the region;

''(II) access to and from major planned developments, including new retail malls, sports complexes, or transportation terminals; and

''(III) most transportation terminals.

''(ii) PRINCIPAL ARTERIALS AND FIXED GUIDEWAYS.—The term 'regionally significant project' includes, at a minimum—

''(I) all principal arterial highways; and

''(II) all fixed guideway transit facilities that offer an alternative to regional highway travel.

''(iii) ADDITIONAL PROJECTS.—The interagency consultation process and procedures described in section 93.105(c) of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on October 1, 2003), shall be used to make determinations as to whether minor arterial highways and other transportation projects should be considered 'regionally significant projects'.

''(iv) EXCLUSIONS.—The term 'regionally significant project' does not include any project of a type listed in sections 93.126 or 127 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on October 1, 2003).

''(B) SIGNIFICANT REVISION.—The term 'significant revision' means—

''(i) with respect to a regionally significant project, a significant change in design concept or scope to the project; and

''(ii) with respect to any other kind of project, a change that converts a project that is not a regionally significant project into a regionally significant project.

''(C) TRANSPORTATION PROJECT.—The term 'transportation project' includes only a project that is—

''(i) a regionally significant project; or

''(ii) a project that makes a significant revision to an existing project.''; and

(5) in the matter following paragraph (3)(B), by inserting ''transportation'' before ''project'' each place it appears.

SEC. 1616. TRANSITION TO NEW AIR QUALITY STANDARDS.

Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7506(c)) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) METHODS OF CONFORMITY DETERMINATION BEFORE BUDGET IS AVAILABLE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Until such time as a motor vehicle emission budget from an implementation plan submitted for a national ambient air quality standard is determined to be adequate in accordance with section 93.118(e)(4) of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on October 1, 2003), or the submitted implementation plan is approved, conformity of such a plan, program, or project shall be demonstrated, in accordance with clauses (i) and (ii) and as selected through the consultation process required under paragraph (4)(D)(i), with—

''(i) a motor vehicle emission budget that has been found adequate in accordance with section 93.118(e)(4) of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on October 1, 2003), or that has been approved, from an implementation plan for the most recent prior applicable national ambient air quality standard addressing the same pollutant; or

''(ii) other such tests as the Administrator shall determine to ensure that—

''(I) the transportation plan or program—

''(aa) is consistent with the most recent estimates of mobile source emissions;

''(bb) provides for the expeditious implementation of transportation control measures in the applicable implementation plan; and

''(cc) with respect to an ozone or carbon monoxide nonattainment area, contributes to annual emissions reductions consistent with sections 182(b)(1) and 187(a)(7); and

''(II) the transportation project—

''(aa) comes from a conforming transportation plan and program described in this subparagraph; and

''(bb) in a carbon monoxide nonattainment area, eliminates or reduces the severity and number of violations of the carbon monoxide standards in the area substantially affected by the project.

''(B) DETERMINATION FOR A TRANSPORTATION PROJECT IN A CARBON MONOXIDE NONATTAINMENT AREA.—A determination under subparagraph (A)(ii)(II)(bb) may be made as part of either the conformity determination for the transportation program or for the individual project taken as a whole during the environmental review phase of project development.''.

SEC. 1617. REDUCED BARRIERS TO AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS.

Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7506(c)) (as amended by section 1615(b)(4)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (9); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (7) the following:

''(8) SUBSTITUTION FOR TRANSPORTATION CONTROL MEASURES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Transportation control measures that are specified in an implementation plan may be replaced or added to the implementation plan with alternate or additional transportation control measures if—

''(i) the substitute measures achieve equivalent or greater emissions reductions than the control measure to be replaced, as demonstrated with an analysis that is consistent with the current methodology used for evaluating the replaced control measure in the implementation plan;

''(ii) the substitute control measures are implemented—

''(I) in accordance with a schedule that is consistent with the schedule provided for control measures in the implementation plan; or

''(II) if the implementation plan date for implementation of the control measure to be replaced has passed, as soon as practicable after the implementation plan date but not later than

the date on which emission reductions are necessary to achieve the purpose of the implementation plan;

''(iii) the substitute and additional control measures are accompanied with evidence of adequate personnel, funding, and authority under State or local law to implement, monitor, and enforce the control measures;

''(iv) the substitute and additional control measures were developed through a collaborative process that included—

''(I) participation by representatives of all affected jurisdictions (including local air pollution control agencies, the State air pollution control agency, and State and local transportation agencies);

''(II) consultation with the Administrator; and

''(III) reasonable public notice and opportunity for comment; and

''(v) the metropolitan planning organization, State air pollution control agency, and the Administrator concur with the equivalency of the substitute or additional control measures.

''(B) ADOPTION.—After carrying out subparagraph (A), a State shall adopt the substitute or additional transportation control measure in the applicable implementation plan.

''(C) NO REQUIREMENT FOR EXPRESS PERMISSION.—The substitution or addition of a transportation control measure in accordance with this paragraph shall not be contingent on there being any provision in the implementation plan that expressly permits such a substitution or addition.

''(D) NO REQUIREMENT FOR NEW CONFORMITY DETERMINATION.—The substitution or addition of a transportation control measure in accordance with this paragraph shall not require—

''(i) a new conformity determination for the transportation plan; or

''(ii) a revision of the implementation plan.

''(E) CONTINUATION OF CONTROL MEASURE BEING REPLACED.—A control measure that is being replaced by a substitute control measure under this paragraph shall remain in effect until the substitute control measure is adopted by the State pursuant to subparagraph (B).

''(F) EFFECT OF ADOPTION.—Adoption of a substitute control measure shall constitute rescission of the previously applicable control measure.''.

SEC. 1618. AIR QUALITY MONITORING DATA INFLUENCED BY EXCEPTIONAL EVENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 319 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7619) is amended—

(1) by striking the section heading and all that follows through ''after notice and opportunity for public hearing'' and inserting the following:

''SEC. 319. AIR QUALITY MONITORING.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—After notice and opportunity for public hearing''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) AIR QUALITY MONITORING DATA INFLUENCED BY EXCEPTIONAL EVENTS.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF EXCEPTIONAL EVENT.—In this section:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'exceptional event' means an event that—

''(i) affects air quality;

''(ii) is not reasonably controllable or preventable;

''(iii) is—

''(I) a natural event; or

''(II) an event caused by human activity that is unlikely to recur at a particular location; and

''(iv) is determined by the Administrator through the process established in the regulations promulgated under paragraph (2) to be an exceptional event.

''(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term 'exceptional event' does not include—

''(i) stagnation of air masses or meteorological inversions;

''(ii) a meteorological event involving high temperatures or lack of precipitation; or

''(iii) air pollution relating to source noncompliance.

''(2) REGULATIONS.—

''(A) PROPOSED REGULATIONS.—Not later than March 1, 2005, after consultation with Federal land managers and State air pollution control agencies, the Administrator shall publish in the Federal Register proposed regulations governing the review and handling of air quality monitoring data influenced by exceptional events.

''(B) FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Administrator publishes proposed regulations under subparagraph (A), and after providing an opportunity for interested persons to make oral presentations of views, data, and arguments regarding the proposed regulations, the Administrator shall promulgate final regulations governing the review and handling or air quality monitoring data influenced by an exceptional event that are consistent with paragraph (3).

''(3) PRINCIPLES AND REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) PRINCIPLES.—In promulgating regulations under this section, the Administrator shall follow—

''(i) the principle that protection of public health is the highest priority;

''(ii) the principle that timely information should be provided to the public in any case in which the air quality is unhealthy;

''(iii) the principle that all ambient air quality data should be included in a timely manner, an appropriate Federal air quality database that is accessible to the public;

''(iv) the principle that each State must take necessary measures to safeguard public health regardless of the source of the air pollution; and

''(v) the principle that air quality data should be carefully screened to ensure that events not likely to recur are represented accurately in all monitoring data and analyses.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—Regulations promulgated under this section shall, at a minimum, provide that—

''(i) the occurrence of an exceptional event must be demonstrated by reliable, accurate data that is promptly produced and provided by Federal, State, or local government agencies;

''(ii) a clear causal relationship must exist between the measured exceedances of a national ambient air quality standard and the exceptional event to demonstrate that the exceptional event caused a specific air pollution concentration at a particular air quality monitoring location;

''(iii) there is a public process for determining whether an event is exceptional; and

''(iv) there are criteria and procedures for the Governor of a State to petition the Administrator to exclude air quality monitoring data that is directly due to exceptional events from use in determinations by the Environmental Protection Agency with respect to exceedances or violations of the national ambient air quality standards.

''(4) INTERIM PROVISION.—Until the effective date of a regulation promulgated under paragraph (2), the following guidance issued by the Administrator shall continue to apply:

''(A) Guidance on the identification and use of air quality data affected by exceptional events (July 1986).

''(B) Areas affected by PM–10 natural events, May 30, 1996.

''(C) Appendices I, K, and N to part 50 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations.''.

SEC. 1619. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

Section 176(c)(4) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7506(c)(4) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (D) as subparagraphs (D) through (F), respectively;

(2) by striking ''(4)(A) No later than one year after the date of enactment of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, the Administrator shall promulgate'' and inserting the following:

''(4) CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR DETERMINING CONFORMITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall promulgate, and periodically update,'';

(3) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) in the second sentence, by striking ''No later than one year after such date of enactment, the Administrator, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Transportation, shall promulgate'' and inserting the following:

''(B) TRANSPORTATION PLANS, PROGRAMS, AND PROJECTS.—The Administrator, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Transportation, shall promulgate, and periodically update,''; and

(B) in the third sentence, by striking ''A suit'' and inserting the following:

''(C) CIVIL ACTION TO COMPEL PROMULGATION.—A civil action''; and

(4) by striking subparagraph (E) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) and inserting the following:

''(E) INCLUSION OF CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES IN SIP.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004, the procedures under subparagraph (A) shall include a requirement that each State include in the State implementation plan criteria and procedures for consultation in accordance with the Administrator's criteria and procedures for consultation required by subparagraph (D)(i).''.

SEC. 1620. HIGHWAY STORMWATER DISCHARGE MITIGATION PROGRAM.

(a) HIGHWAY STORMWATER MITIGATION PROJECTS.—Section 133(d) of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1401(a)(2)(B)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) HIGHWAY STORMWATER DISCHARGE MITIGATION PROJECTS.—Of the amount apportioned to a State under section 104(b)(3) for a fiscal year, 2 percent shall be available only for projects and activities carried out under section 167.''.

(b) HIGHWAY STORMWATER DISCHARGE MITIGATION PROGRAM.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1601(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 167. Highway stormwater discharge mitigation program

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term 'Administrator' means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

''(2) ELIGIBLE MITIGATION PROJECT.—The term 'eligible mitigation project' means a practice or technique that—

''(A) improves stormwater discharge water quality;

''(B) attains preconstruction hydrology;

''(C) promotes infiltration of stormwater into groundwater;

''(D) recharges groundwater;

''(E) minimizes stream bank erosion;

''(F) promotes natural filters;

''(G) otherwise mitigates water quality impacts of highway stormwater discharges, improves surface water quality, or enhances groundwater recharge; or

''(H) reduces flooding caused by highway stormwater discharge.

''(3) FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY AND ASSOCIATED FACILITY.—The term 'Federal-aid highway and associated facility' means—

''(A) a Federal-aid highway; or

''(B) a facility or land owned by a State (or political subdivision of a State) that is directly associated with the Federal-aid highway.

''(4) HIGHWAY STORMWATER DISCHARGE.—The term 'highway stormwater discharge' means stormwater discharge from a Federal-aid highway, or a Federal-aid highway and associated facility, that was constructed before the date of enactment of this section.

''(5) HIGHWAY STORMWATER DISCHARGE MITIGATION.—The term 'highway stormwater discharge mitigation' means—

''(A) the reduction of water quality impacts of stormwater discharges from Federal-aid highways or Federal-aid highways and associated facilities; or

''(B) the enhancement of groundwater recharge from stormwater discharges from Federal-aid highways or Federal-aid highways and associated facilities.

''(6) PROGRAM.—The term 'program' means the highway stormwater discharge mitigation program established under subsection (b).

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a highway stormwater discharge mitigation program—

''(1) to improve the quality of stormwater discharge from Federal-aid highways or Federal-aid highways and associated facilities; and

''(2) to enhance groundwater recharge.

''(c) PRIORITY OF PROJECTS.—For projects funded from the allocation under section 133(d)(6), a State shall give priority to projects sponsored by a State or local government that assist the State or local government in complying with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.).

''(d) GUIDANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator, shall issue guidance to assist States in carrying out this section.

''(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR GUIDANCE.—The guidance issued under paragraph (1) shall include information concerning innovative technologies and nonstructural best management practices to mitigate highway stormwater discharges.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1601(b), is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 166 the following:

''167. Highway stormwater discharge mitigation program.''.

SEC. 1621. EXEMPTION FROM CERTAIN HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS.

(a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE PERSON.—In this section, the term ''eligible person'' means an agricultural producer that has gross agricultural commodity sales that do not exceed $500,000.

(b) EXEMPTION.—Subject to subsection (c), part 172 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, shall not apply to an eligible person that transports a fertilizer, pesticide, propane, gasoline, or diesel fuel for agricultural purposes, to the extent determined by the Secretary.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (b) applies to security plan requirements under subpart I of part 172 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation).

SEC. 1622. FUNDS FOR REBUILDING FISH STOCKS.

Section 105 of the Miscellaneous Appropriations and Offsets Act, 2004 (Division H of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004 (Public Law 108–199)) is repealed.

Subtitle G—Operations

SEC. 1701. TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS.

(a) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY.—Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1601(a)(2)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(16) Regional transportation operations collaboration and coordination activities that are associated with regional improvements, such as traffic incident management, technology deployment, emergency management and response, traveler information, and regional congestion relief.

''(17) RUSH HOUR CONGESTION RELIEF.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), a State may spend the funds apportioned under this section to reduce traffic delays caused by motor vehicle accidents and breakdowns on highways during peak driving times.

''(B) USE OF FUNDS.—A State, metropolitan planning organization, or local government may use the funds under subparagraph (A)—

''(i) to develop a region-wide coordinated plan to mitigate traffic delays caused by motor vehicle accidents and breakdowns;

''(ii) to purchase or lease telecommunications equipment for first responders;

''(iii) to purchase or lease towing and recovery services;

''(iv) to pay contractors for towing and recovery;

''(v) to rent vehicle storage areas adjacent to roadways;

''(vi) to fund service patrols, equipment, and operations;

''(vii) to purchase incident detection equipment;

''(viii) to carry out training.''.

(b) CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY.—Section 149(b)(5) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''improve transportation systems management and operations,'' after ''intersections,''.

(c) TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1620(b)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 168. Transportation systems management and operations

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a transportation systems management and operations program to—

''(1) ensure efficient and effective transportation systems management and operations on Federal-aid highways through collaboration, coordination, and real-time information sharing at a regional and Statewide level among—

''(A) managers and operators of major modes of transportation;

''(B) public safety officials; and

''(C) the general public; and

''(2) manage and operate Federal-aid highways in a coordinated manner to preserve the capacity and maximize the performance of highway and transit facilities for travelers and carriers.

''(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary may carry out activities to—

''(A) encourage managers and operators of major modes of transportation, public safety officials, and transportation planners in urbanized areas that are responsible for conducting the day-to-day management, operations, public safety, and planning of transportation facilities and services to collaborate on and coordinate, on a regional level and in a continuous and sustained manner, improved transportation systems management and operations; and

''(B) encourage States to—

''(i) establish a system of basic real-time monitoring for the surface transportation system; and

''(ii) provide the means to share the data gathered under clause (i) among—

''(I) highway, transit, and public safety agencies;

''(II) jurisdictions (including States, cities, counties, and metropolitan planning organizations);

''(III) private-sector entities; and

''(IV) the general public.

''(2) ACTIVITIES.—Activities to be carried out under paragraph (1) include—

''(A) developing a regional concept of operations that defines a regional strategy shared by all transportation and public safety participants with respect to the manner in which the transportation systems of the region should be managed, operated, and measured;

''(B) the sharing of information among operators, service providers, public safety officials, and the general public; and

''(C) guiding, in a regionally-coordinated manner and in a manner consistent with and integrated into the metropolitan and statewide transportation planning processes and regional intelligent transportation system architecture, the implementation of regional transportation system management and operations initiatives, including—

''(i) emergency evacuation and response;

''(ii) traffic incident management;

''(iii) technology deployment; and

''(iv) traveler information systems delivery.

''(c) COOPERATION.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary may assist and cooperate with other Federal agencies, State and local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, private industry, and other interested parties to improve regional collaboration and real-time information sharing between managers and operators of major modes of transportation, public safety officials, emergency managers, and the general public to increase the security, safety, and reliability of Federal-aid highways.

''(d) GUIDANCE; REGULATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the program under subsection (a), the Secretary may issue guidance or promulgate regulations for the procurement of transportation system management and operations facilities, equipment, and services, including—

''(A) equipment procured in preparation for natural disasters, disasters caused by human activity, and emergencies;

''(B) system hardware;

''(C) software; and

''(D) software integration services.

''(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the guidance or regulations under paragraph (1), the Secretary may consider innovative procurement methods that support the timely and streamlined execution of transportation system management and operations programs and projects.

''(3) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may authorize the use of funds made available under section 104(b)(3) to provide assistance for regional operations collaboration and coordination activities that are associated with regional improvements, such as—

''(A) traffic incident management;

''(B) technology deployment;

''(C) emergency management and response;

''(D) traveler information; and

''(E) congestion relief.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1620(c)), is amended by adding at the end:

''168. Transportation systems management and operations.''.

SEC. 1702. REAL-TIME SYSTEM MANAGEMENT INFORMATION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1701(c)(1)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 169. Real-time system management information program

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a real-time system management information program to—

''(1) provide a nationwide system of basic real-time information for managing and operating the surface transportation system;

''(2)(A) identify long-range real-time highway and transit monitoring needs; and

''(B) develop plans and strategies for meeting those needs;

''(3) provide the capability and means to share the basic real-time information with State and local governments and the traveling public; and

''(4) provide the nationwide capability to monitor, in real-time, the traffic and travel conditions of major highways in the United States, and to share that information with State and local governments and the traveling public, to—

''(A) improve the security of the surface transportation system;

''(B) address congestion problems;

''(C) support improved response to weather events; and

''(D) facilitate the distribution of national and regional traveler information.

''(b) DATA EXCHANGE FORMATS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall establish data exchange formats to ensure that the data provided by highway and transit monitoring systems (including statewide incident reporting systems) can readily be exchanged between jurisdictions to facilitate the nationwide availability of information on traffic and travel conditions.

''(c) STATEWIDE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, or not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this section if the Secretary determines that adequate real-time communications capability will not be available within 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, each State shall establish a statewide incident reporting system to facilitate the real-time electronic reporting of highway and transit incidents to a central location for use in—

''(1) monitoring an incident;

''(2) providing accurate traveler information on the incident; and

''(3) responding to the incident as appropriate.

''(d) REGIONAL ITS ARCHITECTURE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In developing or updating regional intelligent transportation system architectures under section 940.9 of title 23, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation), States and local governments shall address—

''(A) the real-time highway and transit information needs of the State or local government, including coverage, monitoring systems, data fusion and archiving, and methods of exchanging or sharing information; and

''(B) the systems needed to meet those needs.

''(2) DATA EXCHANGE FORMATS.—In developing or updating regional intelligent transportation system architectures, States and local governments are encouraged to incorporate the data exchange formats developed by the Secretary under subsection (b) to ensure that the data provided by highway and transit monitoring systems can readily be—

''(A) exchanged between jurisdictions; and

''(B) shared with the traveling public.

''(e) ELIGIBLE FUNDING.—Subject to project approval by the Secretary, a State may—

''(1) use funds available to the State under section 505(a) to carry out activities relating to the planning of real-time monitoring elements; and

''(2) use funds apportioned to the State under paragraphs (1) and (3) of section 104(b) to carry out activities relating to the planning and deployment of real-time monitoring elements.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1701(c)(2)), is amended adding at the end the following:

''169. Real-time system management information program.''.

SEC. 1703. CONTRACTING FOR ENGINEERING AND DESIGN SERVICES.

Section 112(b)(2) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''title 40'' and all that follows through the period and inserting ''title 40.'';

(2) by striking subparagraph (B);

(3) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) through (F) as subparagraphs (B) through (E), respectively; and

(4) by striking subparagraph (G).

SEC. 1704. OFF-DUTY TIME FOR DRIVERS OF COMMERCIAL VEHICLES.

Section 345(a)(2) of the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (49 U.S.C. 31136 note; 109 Stat. 613) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''No additional off-duty time for a driver of such a vehicle shall be required in order for the driver to operate the vehicle.''.

SEC. 1705. DESIGNATION OF TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREAS.

(a) FUNDING.—Section 134(d)(3)(C)(ii) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subclause (II) and inserting the following:

''(II) FUNDING.—In addition to funds made available to the metropolitan planning organization for the Lake Tahoe Region under this title and chapter 53 of title 49, 1 percent of all funds distributed under section 202 shall be used to carry out the transportation planning process for the Lake Tahoe region under this subparagraph.''.

(b) SPECIAL DESIGNATION.—Section 134(i)(1) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(C) SPECIAL DESIGNATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The urbanized areas of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Norman, Oklahoma, shall be designated as a single transportation management area.

''(ii) ALLOCATION.—The allocation of funds to the Oklahoma City-Norman Transportation Management Area designated under clause (i) shall be based on the aggregate population of the 2 urbanized areas referred to in that clause, as determined by the Bureau of the Census.''.

Subtitle H—Federal-Aid Stewardship

SEC. 1801. FUTURE INTERSTATE SYSTEM ROUTES.

Section 103(c)(4)(B) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in clause (ii), by striking ''12'' and inserting ''25''; and

(2) in clause (iii)—

(A) in subclause (I), by striking ''in the agreement between the Secretary and the State or States''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(III) EXISTING AGREEMENTS.—An agreement described in clause (ii) that is entered into before the date of enactment of this subparagraph shall be deemed to include the 25-year time limitation described in that clause, regardless of any earlier construction completion date in the agreement.''.

SEC. 1802. STEWARDSHIP AND OVERSIGHT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 106 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e) VALUE ENGINEERING ANALYSIS.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF VALUE ENGINEERING ANALYSIS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In this subsection, the term 'value engineering analysis' means a systematic process of review and analysis of a project, during the concept and design phases, by a multidisciplined team of persons not involved in the project, that is conducted to provide recommendations such as those described in subparagraph (B) for—

''(i) providing the needed functions safely, reliably, and at the lowest overall cost; and

''(ii) improving the value and quality of the project.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The recommendations referred to in subparagraph (A) include, with respect to a project—

''(i) combining or eliminating otherwise inefficient use of costly parts of the original proposed design for the project; and

''(ii) completely redesigning the project using different technologies, materials, or methods so as to accomplish the original purpose of the project.

''(2) ANALYSIS.—The State shall provide a value engineering analysis or other cost-reduction analysis for—

''(A) each project on the Federal-Aid System with an estimated total cost of $25,000,000 or more;

''(B) a bridge project with an estimated total cost of $20,000,000 or more; and

''(C) any other project the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''(3) MAJOR PROJECTS.—The Secretary may require more than 1 analysis described in paragraph (2) for a major project described in subsection (h).

''(4) REQUIREMENTS.—Analyses described in paragraph (1) for a bridge project shall—

''(A) include bridge substructure requirements based on construction material; and

''(B) be evaluated—

''(i) on engineering and economic bases, taking into consideration acceptable designs for bridges; and

''(ii) using an analysis of life-cycle costs and duration of project construction.''; and

(2) by striking subsections (g) and (h) and inserting the following:

''(g) OVERSIGHT PROGRAM.—

''(1) PROGRAM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish an oversight program to monitor the effective and efficient use of funds made available under this title.

''(B) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—At a minimum, the program shall monitor and respond to all areas relating to financial integrity and project delivery.

''(2) FINANCIAL INTEGRITY.—

''(A) FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall perform annual reviews of the financial management systems of State transportation departments that affect projects approved under subsection (a).

''(ii) REVIEW AREAS.—In carrying out clause (i), the Secretary shall use risk assessment procedures to identify areas to be reviewed.

''(B) PROJECT COSTS.—The Secretary shall—

''(i) develop minimum standards for estimating project costs; and

''(ii) periodically evaluate practices of the States for—

''(I) estimating project costs;

''(II) awarding contracts; and

''(III) reducing project costs.

''(C) RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STATES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall be responsible for ensuring that subrecipients of Federal funds within the State under this section have—

''(I) sufficient accounting controls to properly manage the Federal funds; and

''(II) adequate project delivery systems for projects approved under this section.

''(ii) REVIEW BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall periodically review monitoring by the States of those subrecipients.

''(3) PROJECT DELIVERY.—The Secretary shall—

''(A) perform annual reviews of the project delivery system of each State, including analysis of 1 or more activities that are involved in the life cycle of a project; and

''(B) employ risk assessment procedures to identify areas to be reviewed.

''(4) SPECIFIC OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES.—Nothing in this section discharges or otherwise affects any oversight responsibility of the Secretary—

''(A) specifically provided for under this title or other Federal law; or

''(B) for the design and construction of all Appalachian development highways under section 14501 of title 40 or section 170 of this title.

''(h) MAJOR PROJECTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a recipient of Federal financial assistance for a project under this title with an estimated total cost of $1,000,000,000 or more, and recipients for such other projects as may be identified by the Secretary, shall submit to the Secretary for each project—

''(A) a project management plan; and

''(B) an annual financial plan.

''(2) PROJECT MANAGEMENT PLAN.—A project management plan shall document—

''(A) the procedures and processes that are in effect to provide timely information to the project decisionmakers to effectively manage the scope, costs, schedules, and quality of, and the Federal requirements applicable to, the project; and

''(B) the role of the agency leadership and management team in the delivery of the project.

''(3) FINANCIAL PLAN.—A financial plan shall—

''(A) be based on detailed estimates of the cost to complete the project; and

''(B) provide for the annual submission of updates to the Secretary that are based on reasonable assumptions, as determined by the Secretary, of future increases in the cost to complete the project.

''(i) OTHER PROJECTS.—A recipient of Federal financial assistance for a project under this title that receives $100,000,000 or more in Federal assistance for the project, and that is not covered by subsection (h), shall prepare, and make available to the Secretary at the request of the Secretary, an annual financial plan for the project.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 114(a) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in the first sentence by striking ''highways or portions of highways located on a Federal-aid system'' and inserting ''Federal-aid highway or a portion of a Federal-aid highway''; and

(B) by striking the second sentence and inserting ''The Secretary shall have the right to conduct such inspections and take such corrective action as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.''.

(2) Section 117 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking subsection (d); and

(B) by redesignating subsections (e) through (h) as subsections (d) through (g), respectively.

(c) CONTRACTOR SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT POLICY; SHARING FRAUD MONETARY RECOVERIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 307 of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 307. Contractor suspension and debarment policy; sharing fraud monetary recoveries

''(a) MANDATORY ENFORCEMENT POLICY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary—

''(A) shall debar any contractor or subcontractor convicted of a criminal or civil offense involving fraud relating to a project receiving Federal highway or transit funds for such period as the Secretary determines to be appropriate; and

''(B) subject to approval by the Attorney General—

''(i) except as provided in paragraph (2), shall suspend any contractor or subcontractor upon indictment for criminal or civil offenses involving fraud; and

''(ii) may exclude nonaffiliated subsidiaries of a debarred business entity.

''(2) NATIONAL SECURITY EXCEPTION.—If the Secretary finds that mandatory debarment or suspension of a contractor or subcontractor under paragraph (1) would be contrary to the national security of the United States, the Secretary—

''(A) may waive the debarment or suspension; and

''(B) in the instance of each waiver, shall provide notification to Congress of the waiver with appropriate details.

''(b) SHARING OF MONETARY RECOVERIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

''(A) monetary judgments accruing to the Federal Government from judgments in Federal criminal prosecutions and civil judgments pertaining to fraud in highway and transit programs shall be shared with the State or local transit agency involved; and

''(B) the State or local transit agency shall use the funds for transportation infrastructure and oversight activities relating to programs authorized under title 23 and this title.

''(2) AMOUNT.—The amount of recovered funds to be shared with an affected State or local transit agency shall be—

''(A) determined by the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary; and

''(B) considered to be Federal funds to be used in compliance with other relevant Federal transportation laws (including regulations).

''(3) FRAUDULENT ACTIVITY.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply in any case in which a State or local transit agency is found by the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary, to have been involved or negligent with respect to the fraudulent activities.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 3 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 307 and inserting the following:

''307. Contractor suspension and debarment policy; sharing fraud monetary recoveries.''.

SEC. 1803. DESIGN-BUILD CONTRACTING.

Section 112(b)(3) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

''(C) QUALIFIED PROJECTS.—A qualified project referred to in subparagraph (A) is a project under this chapter (including intermodal projects) for which the Secretary has approved the use of design-build contracting under criteria specified in regulations promulgated by the Secretary.''.

SEC. 1804. PROGRAM EFFICIENCIES—FINANCE.

(a) ADVANCE CONSTRUCTION.—Section 115 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d);

(2) by redesignating subsections (a)(2), (a)(2)(A), and (a)(2)(B) as subsections (c), (c)(1), and (c)(2), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(3) by striking ''(a) CONGESTION'' and all that follows through subsection (a)(1)(B);

(4) by striking subsection (b); and

(5) by inserting after the section heading the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may authorize a State to proceed with a project authorized under this title—

''(1) without the use of Federal funds; and

''(2) in accordance with all procedures and requirements applicable to the project other than those procedures and requirements that limit the State to implementation of a project—

''(A) with the aid of Federal funds previously apportioned or allocated to the State; or

''(B) with obligation authority previously allocated to the State.

''(b) OBLIGATION OF FEDERAL SHARE.—The Secretary, on the request of a State and execution of a project agreement, may obligate all or a portion of the Federal share of the project authorized under this section from any category of funds for which the project is eligible.''.

(b) OBLIGATION AND RELEASE OF FUNDS.—Section 118 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) OBLIGATION AND RELEASE OF FUNDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Funds apportioned or allocated to a State for a particular purpose for any fiscal year shall be considered to be obligated if a sum equal to the total of the funds apportioned or allocated to the State for that purpose for that fiscal year and previous fiscal years is obligated.

''(2) RELEASED FUNDS.—Any funds released by the final payment for a project, or by modifying the project agreement for a project, shall be—

''(A) credited to the same class of funds previously apportioned or allocated to the State; and

''(B) immediately available for obligation.

''(3) NET OBLIGATIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including a regulation), obligations recorded against funds made available under this section shall be recorded and reported as net obligations.''.

SEC. 1805. SET-ASIDES FOR INTERSTATE DISCRETIONARY PROJECTS.

Section 118(c)(1) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''$50,000,000'' and all that follows through ''2003'' and inserting ''$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009''; and

(2) by striking ''Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century'' and inserting ''Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004''.

SEC. 1806. FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAYS PROGRAM.

(a) FEDERAL SHARE PAYABLE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 120(k) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking ''Federal-aid highway''; and

(B) by striking ''section 104'' and inserting ''this title or chapter 53 of title 49''.

(2) TECHNICAL REFERENCES.—Section 120(l) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 104'' and inserting ''this title or chapter 53 of title 49''.

(b) PAYMENTS TO FEDERAL AGENCIES FOR FEDERAL-AID PROJECTS.—Section 132 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking the first 2 sentences and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In a case in which a proposed Federal-aid project is to be undertaken by a Federal agency in accordance with an agreement between a State and the Federal agency, the State may—

''(1) direct the Secretary to transfer the funds for the Federal share of the project directly to the Federal agency; or

''(2) make such deposit with, or payment to, the Federal agency as is required to meet the obligation of the State under the agreement for the work undertaken or to be undertaken by the Federal agency.

''(b) REIMBURSEMENT.—On execution of a project agreement with a State described in subsection (a), the Secretary may reimburse the State, using any available funds, for the estimated Federal share under this title of the obligation of the State deposited or paid under subsection (a)(2).''; and

(2) in the last sentence, by striking ''Any sums'' and inserting the following:

''(c) RECOVERY AND CREDITING OF FUNDS.—Any sums''.

(c) ALLOCATIONS.—Section 202 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''(a) On October 1'' and all that follows through ''Such allocation'' and inserting the following:

''(a) ALLOCATION BASED ON NEED.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—On October 1 of each fiscal year, the Secretary shall allocate sums authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year for forest development roads and trails according to the relative needs of the various national forests and grasslands.

''(2) PLANNING.—The allocation under paragraph (1)'';

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) ALLOCATION FOR PUBLIC LANDS HIGHWAYS.—

''(1) PUBLIC LANDS HIGHWAYS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—On October 1 of each fiscal year, the Secretary shall allocate 33⅓ percent of the sums authorized to be appropriated for that fiscal year for public lands highways among those States having unappropriated or unreserved public lands, or nontaxable Indian lands or other Federal reservations, on the basis of need in the States, respectively, as determined by the Secretary, on application of the State transportation departments of the respective States.

''(B) PREFERENCE.—In making the allocation under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall give preference to those projects that are significantly impacted by Federal land and resource management activities that are proposed by a State that contains at least 3 percent of the total public land in the United States.

''(2) FOREST HIGHWAYS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—On October 1 of each fiscal year, the Secretary shall allocate 66⅔ percent of

the funds authorized to be appropriated for public lands highways for forest highways in accordance with section 134 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1987 (23 U.S.C. 202 note; 101 Stat. 173).

''(B) PUBLIC ACCESS TO AND WITHIN NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM.—In making the allocation under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall give equal consideration to projects that provide access to and within the National Forest System, as identified by the Secretary of Agriculture through—

''(i) renewable resource and land use planning; and

''(ii) assessments of the impact of that planning on transportation facilities.'';

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''(c) On'' and inserting the following:

''(c) PARK ROADS AND PARKWAYS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—On''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) PRIORITY.—

''(A) DEFINITION OF QUALIFYING NATIONAL PARK.—In this paragraph, the term ''qualifying national park'' means a National Park that is used more than 1,000,000 recreational visitor days per year, based on an average of the 3 most recent years of available data from the National Park Service.

''(B) PRIORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, with respect to funds authorized for park roads and parkways, the Secretary shall give priority in the allocation of funds to projects for highways that—

''(i) are located in, or provide access to, a qualifying National Park; and

''(ii) were initially constructed before 1940.

''(C) PRIORITY CONFLICTS.—If there is a conflict between projects described in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall give highest priority to projects that—

''(i) are in, or that provide access to, parks that are adjacent to a National Park of a foreign country; or

''(ii) are located in more than 1 State;'';

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by striking ''1999'' and inserting ''2005''; and

(ii) by striking ''1999'' and inserting ''2005'';

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by striking ''2000'' and inserting ''2005'';

(ii) in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (D), by striking ''2000'' each place it appears and inserting ''2005'';

(iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''1999'' each place it appears and inserting ''2004''; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

''(E) TRANSFERRED FUNDS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which funds are made available to the Secretary of the Interior under this paragraph, the funds shall be distributed to, and available for immediate use by, the eligible Indian tribes, in accordance with the formula applicable for each fiscal year.

''(ii) FORMULA.—If the Secretary of the Interior has not promulgated final regulations for the distribution of funds under clause (i) for a fiscal year by the date on which the funds for the fiscal year are required to be distributed under that clause, the Secretary of the Interior shall distribute the funds under clause (i) in accordance with the applicable funding formula for the preceding year.

''(iii) USE OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, funds available to Indian tribes for Indian reservation roads shall be expended on projects identified in a transportation improvement program approved by the Secretary.'';

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''under this title'' and inserting ''under this chapter and section 125(e)''; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY PROGRAM DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a demonstration project under which all funds made available under this chapter for Indian reservation roads and for highway bridges located on Indian reservation roads as provided for in subparagraph (A) shall be made available, on the request of an affected Indian tribal government, to the Indian tribal government for use in carrying out, in accordance with the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b et seq.), contracts and agreements for the planning, research, engineering, and construction described in that subparagraph.

''(ii) EXCLUSION OF AGENCY PARTICIPATION.—In accordance with subparagraph (B), all funds for Indian reservation roads and for highway bridges located on Indian reservation roads to which clause (i) applies shall be paid without regard to the organizational level at which the Federal lands highway program has previously carried out the programs, functions, services, or activities involved.

''(iii) SELECTION OF PARTICIPATING TRIBES.—

''(I) PARTICIPANTS.—

''(aa) IN GENERAL.—In addition to Indian tribes or tribal organizations that, as of the date of enactment of this subparagraph, are contracting or compacting for any Indian reservation road function or program, for each fiscal year, the Secretary may select up to 15 Indian tribes from the applicant pool described in subclause (II) to participate in the demonstration project carried out under clause (i).

''(bb) CONSORTIA.—Two or more Indian tribes that are otherwise eligible to participate in a program or activity to which this title applies may form a consortium to be considered as a single Indian tribe for the purpose of becoming part of the applicant pool under subclause (II).

''(cc) FUNDING.—An Indian tribe participating in the pilot program under this subparagraph shall receive funding in an amount equal to the sum of the funding that the Indian tribe would otherwise receive in accordance with the funding formula established under the other provisions of this subsection, and an additional percentage of that amount equal to the percentage of funds withheld during the applicable fiscal year for the road program management costs of the Bureau of Indian Affairs under subsection (f)(1).

''(II) APPLICANT POOL.—The applicant pool described in this subclause shall consist of each Indian tribe (or consortium) that—

''(aa) has successfully completed the planning phase described in subclause (IV);

''(bb) has requested participation in the demonstration project under this subparagraph through the adoption of a resolution or other official action by the tribal governing body; and

''(cc) has demonstrated financial stability and financial management capability in accordance with subclause (III) during the 3-fiscal-year period immediately preceding the fiscal year for which participation under this subparagraph is being requested.

''(III) CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING FINANCIAL STABILITY AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CAPACITY.—For the purpose of subclause (II), evidence that, during the 3-year period referred to in subclause (II)(cc), an Indian tribe had no uncorrected significant and material audit exceptions in the required annual audit of the Indian tribe's self-determination contracts or self-governance funding agreements with any Federal agency shall be conclusive evidence of the required stability and capability.

''(IV) PLANNING PHASE.—

''(aa) IN GENERAL.—An Indian tribe (or consortium) requesting participation in the demonstration project under this subparagraph shall complete a planning phase that shall include legal and budgetary research and internal tribal government and organization preparation.

''(bb) ELIGIBILITY.—An Indian tribe (or consortium) described in item (aa) shall be eligible to receive a grant under this subclause to plan and negotiate participation in a project described in that item.

''(V) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than September 30, 2006, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing the implementation of the demonstration project and any recommendations for improving the project.''; and

(D) in paragraph (4)—

(i) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking ''(B) RESERVATION.—Of the amounts'' and all that follows through ''to replace,'' and inserting the following:

''(B) FUNDING.—

''(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to any other funds made available for Indian reservation roads for each fiscal year, there is authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) $15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 to carry out planning, design, engineering, preconstruction, construction, and inspection of projects to replace,''; and

(II) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) AVAILABILITY.—Funds made available to carry out this subparagraph shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under chapter 1.''; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (D) and inserting the following:

''(D) APPROVAL REQUIREMENT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), on request by an Indian tribe or the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary may make funds available under this subsection for preliminary engineering for Indian reservation road bridge projects.

''(ii) CONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING.—The Secretary may make funds available under clause (i) for construction and construction engineering only after approval by the Secretary of applicable plans, specifications, and estimates.''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) ADMINISTRATION OF INDIAN RESERVATION ROADS.—

''(1) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for any fiscal year, not more than 6 percent of the contract authority amounts made available from the Highway Trust Fund to the Bureau of Indian Affairs under this title shall be used to pay the expenses incurred by the Bureau in administering the Indian reservation roads program (including the administrative expenses relating to individual projects associated with the Indian reservation roads program).

''(2) HEALTH AND SAFETY ASSURANCES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an Indian tribe or tribal organization may commence road and bridge construction under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (Public Law 105-178) or the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 that is funded through a contract or agreement under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b et seq.) if the Indian tribe or tribal organization—

''(A) provides assurances in the contract or agreement that the construction will meet or exceed applicable health and safety standards;

''(B) obtains the advance review of the plans and specifications from a licensed professional that has certified that the plans and specifications meet or exceed the applicable health and safety standards; and

''(C) provides a copy of the certification under subparagraph (B) to the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs.''.

(d) PLANNING AND AGENCY COORDINATION.—Section 204 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting ''refuge roads, recreation roads,'' after ''parkways,'';

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Funds available for public lands highways, recreation roads, park roads and parkways, forest highways, and Indian reservation roads shall be used by the Secretary and the Secretary of the appropriate Federal land management agency to pay the cost of transportation planning, research, engineering, operation and maintenance of transit facilities, and construction of the highways, roads, parkways, forest highways, and transit facilities located on public land, national parks, and Indian reservations.

''(2) CONTRACT.—In connection with an activity described in paragraph (1), the Secretary and the Secretary of the appropriate Federal land management agency may enter into a construction contract or other appropriate agreement with—

''(A) a State (including a political subdivision of a State); or

''(B) an Indian tribe.

''(3) INDIAN RESERVATION ROADS.—In the case of an Indian reservation road—

''(A) Indian labor may be used, in accordance with such rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior, to carry out any construction or other activity described in paragraph (1); and

''(B) funds made available to carry out this section may be used to pay bridge preconstruction costs (including planning, design, and engineering).

''(4) FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT.—No maximum on Federal employment shall be applicable to construction or improvement of Indian reservation roads.

''(5) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds available under this section for each class of Federal lands highway shall be available for any kind of transportation project eligible for assistance under this title that is within or adjacent to, or that provides access to, the areas served by the particular class of Federal lands highway.

''(6) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—The Secretary of the Interior may reserve funds from administrative funds of the Bureau of Indian Affairs that are associated with the Indian reservation road program to finance the Indian technical centers authorized under section 504(b).''; and

(3) in subsection (k)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking ''(2), (5),'' and inserting ''(2), (3), (5),''; and

(ii) by striking ''and'' after the semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) maintenance of public roads in national fish hatcheries under the jurisdiction of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;

''(E) the non-Federal share of the cost of any project funded under this title or chapter 53 of title 49 that provides access to or within a wildlife refuge; and

''(F) maintenance and improvement of recreational trails (except that expenditures on trails under this subparagraph shall not exceed 5 percent of available funds for each fiscal year).''.

(e) MAINTENANCE OF INDIAN RESERVATION ROADS.—Section 204(c) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking the second and third sentences and inserting the following: ''Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, of the amount of funds apportioned for Indian reservation roads from the Highway Trust Fund, an Indian tribe may expend for the purpose of maintenance not more than the greater of $250,000 or 25 percent of the apportioned amount. The Bureau of Indian Affairs shall continue to retain primary responsibility, including annual funding request responsibility, for road maintenance programs on Indian reservations. The Secretary shall ensure that funding made available under this subsection for maintenance of Indian reservation roads for each fiscal year is supplementary to and not in lieu of any obligation of funds by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for road maintenance programs on Indian reservations.''.

(e) SAFETY.—

(1) ALLOCATIONS.—Section 202 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by subsection (c)(5)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(g) SAFETY.—Subject to paragraph (2), on October 1 of each fiscal year, the Secretary shall allocate the sums authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year for safety as follows:

''(1) 12 percent to the Bureau of Reclamation.

''(2) 18 percent to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

''(3) 17 percent to the Bureau of Land Management.

''(4) 17 percent to the Forest Service.

''(5) 7 percent to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

''(6) 17 percent to the National Park Service.

''(7) 12 percent to the Corps of Engineers.''.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Section 203 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''safety projects or activities,'' after ''refuge roads,'' each place it appears.

(3) USE OF FUNDING.—Section 204 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(l) SAFETY ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, funds made available for safety under this title shall be used by the Secretary and the head of the appropriate Federal land management agency only to pay the costs of carrying out—

''(A) transportation safety improvement activities;

''(B) activities to eliminate high-accident locations;

''(C) projects to implement protective measures at, or eliminate, at-grade railway-highway crossings;

''(D) collection of safety information;

''(E) transportation planning projects or activities;

''(F) bridge inspection;

''(G) development and operation of safety management systems;

''(H) highway safety education programs; and

''(I) other eligible safety projects and activities authorized under chapter 4.

''(2) CONTRACTS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary and the Secretary of the appropriate Federal land management agency may enter into contracts or agreements with—

''(A) a State;

''(B) a political subdivision of a State; or

''(C) an Indian tribe.

''(3) EXCEPTION.—The cost sharing requirements under the Federal Water Project Recreation Act (16 U.S.C. 460l–12 et seq.) shall not apply to funds made available to the Bureau of Reclamation under this subsection.''.

(f) RECREATION ROADS.—

(1) AUTHORIZATIONS.—Section 201 of title 23, United States Code, is amended in the first sentence by inserting ''recreation roads,'' after ''public lands highways,''.

(2) ALLOCATIONS.—Section 202 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by subsection (e)(1)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h) RECREATION ROADS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), on October 1 of each fiscal year, the Secretary, after completing the transfer under subsection 204(i), shall allocate the sums authorized to be appropriated for the fiscal year for recreation roads as follows:

''(A) 8 percent to the Bureau of Reclamation.

''(B) 9 percent to the Corps of Engineers.

''(C) 13 percent to the Bureau of Land Management.

''(D) 70 percent to the Forest Service.

''(2) ALLOCATION WITHIN AGENCIES.—Recreation road funds allocated to a Federal agency under paragraph (1) shall be allocated for projects and activities of the Federal agency according to the relative needs of each area served by recreation roads under the jurisdiction of the Federal agency, as indicated in the approved transportation improvement program for each Federal agency.''.

(3) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Section 203 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in the first sentence, by inserting ''recreation roads,'' after ''Indian reservation roads,''; and

(B) in the fourth sentence, by inserting '', recreation roads,'' after ''Indian roads''.

(4) USE OF FUNDING.—Section 204 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by subsection (e)(3)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(m) RECREATION ROADS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, funds made available for recreation roads under this title shall be used by the Secretary and the Secretary of the appropriate Federal land management agency only to pay the cost of—

''(A) maintenance or improvements of existing recreation roads;

''(B) maintenance and improvements of eligible projects described in paragraph (1), (2), (3), (5), or (6) of subsection (h) that are located in or adjacent to Federal land under the jurisdiction of—

''(i) the Department of Agriculture; or

''(ii) the Department of the Interior;

''(C) transportation planning and administrative activities associated with those maintenance and improvements; and

''(D) the non-Federal share of the cost of any project funded under this title or chapter 53 of title 49 that provides access to or within Federal land described in subparagraph (B).

''(2) CONTRACTS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary and the Secretary of the appropriate Federal land management agency may enter into contracts or agreements with—

''(A) a State;

''(B) a political subdivision of a State; or

''(C) an Indian tribe.

''(3) NEW ROADS.—No funds made available under this section shall be used to pay the cost of the design or construction of new recreation roads.

''(4) COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS.—A maintenance or improvement project that is funded under this subsection, and that is consistent with or has been identified in a land use plan for an area under the jurisdiction of a Federal agency, shall not require any additional environmental reviews or assessments under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) if—

''(A) the Federal agency that promulgated the land use plan analyzed the specific proposal for the maintenance or improvement project under that Act; and

''(B) as of the date on which the funds are to be expended, there are—

''(i) no significant changes to the proposal bearing on environmental concerns; and

''(ii) no significant new information.

''(5) EXCEPTION.—The cost sharing requirements under the Federal Water Project Recreation Act (16 U.S.C. 460l–12 et seq.) shall not apply to funds made available to the Bureau of Reclamation under this subsection.''.

(g) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Sections 120(e) and 125(e) of title 23, United States Code, are amended by striking ''public lands highways,'' each place it appears and inserting ''public lands highways, recreation roads,''.

(2) Sections 120(e), 125(e), 201, 202(a), and 203 of title 23, United States Code, are amended by striking ''forest development roads'' each place it appears and inserting ''National Forest System roads''.

(3) Section 202(e) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking ''Refuge System,'' and inserting ''Refuge System and the various national fish hatcheries,''.

(4) Section 204 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking ''public lands highways,'' and inserting ''public lands highways, recreation roads, forest highways,''; and

(B) in subsection (i), by striking ''public lands highways'' each place it appears and inserting ''public lands highways, recreation roads, and forest highways''.

(5) Section 205 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

''§ 205. National Forest System roads and trails'';

and

(B) in subsections (a) and (d), by striking ''forest development roads'' each place it appears and inserting ''National Forest System roads''.

(6) The analysis for chapter 2 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 205 and inserting the following:

''205. National Forest System roads and trails.''.

(7) Section 217(c) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''refuge roads,'' after ''Indian reservation roads,''.

SEC. 1807. HIGHWAY BRIDGE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 144 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking the section heading and all that follows through subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''§ 144. Highway bridge program

''(a) CONGRESSIONAL STATEMENT.—Congress finds and declares that it is in the vital interest of the United States that a highway bridge program be established to enable States to improve the condition of their bridges through replacement, rehabilitation, and systematic preventative maintenance on highway bridges over waterways, other topographical barriers, other highways, or railroads at any time at which the States and the Secretary determine that a bridge is unsafe because of structural deficiencies, physical deterioration, or functional obsolescence.'';

(2) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

''(d) PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—On application by a State to the Secretary for assistance in replacing or rehabilitating a highway bridge that has been determined to be eligible for replacement or rehabilitation under subsection (b) or (c), the Secretary may approve Federal participation in—

''(A) replacing the bridge with a comparable bridge; or

''(B) rehabilitating the bridge.

''(2) SPECIFIC KINDS OF REHABILITATION.—On application by a State to the Secretary for assistance in painting, seismic retrofit, or preventative maintenance of, or installation of scour countermeasures or applying calcium magnesium acetate, sodium acetate/formate, or other environmentally acceptable, minimally corrosive anti-icing and de-icing compositions to, the structure of a highway bridge, the Secretary may approve Federal participation in the painting, seismic retrofit, or preventative maintenance of, or installation of scour countermeasures or application of acetate or sodium acetate/formate or such anti-icing or de-icing composition to, the structure.

''(3) ELIGIBILITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall determine the eligibility of highway bridges for replacement or rehabilitation for each State based on the number of unsafe highway bridges in the State.

''(B) PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE.—A State may carry out a project for preventative maintenance on a bridge, seismic retrofit of a bridge, or installation of scour countermeasures to a bridge under this section without regard to whether the bridge is eligible for replacement or rehabilitation under this section.'';

(3) in subsection (e)—

(A) in the third sentence, by striking ''square footage'' and inserting ''area'';

(B) in the fourth sentence—

(i) by striking ''by the total cost of any highway bridges constructed under subsection (m) in such State, relating to replacement of destroyed bridges and ferryboat services, and,''; and

(ii) by striking ''1997'' and inserting ''2003''; and

(C) in the seventh sentence, by striking ''the Federal-aid primary system'' and inserting ''Federal-aid highways'';

(4) by striking subsections (f) and (g) and inserting the following:

''(f) SET ASIDES.—

''(1) DISCRETIONARY BRIDGE PROGRAM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated to carry out the bridge program under this section for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, all but $150,000,000 shall be apportioned as provided in subsection (e).

''(B) AVAILABILITY.—The $150,000,000 referred to in subparagraph (A) shall be available at the discretion of the Secretary, except that not to exceed $25,000,000 of that amount shall be available only for projects for the seismic retrofit of bridges.

''(C) SET ASIDES.—For fiscal year 2004, the Secretary shall provide—

''(i) $50,000,000 to the State of Nevada for construction of a replacement of the federally-owned bridge over the Hoover Dam in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area; and

''(ii) $50,000,000 to the State of Missouri for construction of a structure over the Mississippi River to connect the city of St. Louis, Missouri, to the State of Illinois.

''(2) OFF-SYSTEM BRIDGES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not less than 15 percent of the amount apportioned to each State in each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be expended for projects to replace, rehabilitate, perform systematic preventative maintenance or seismic retrofit, or apply calcium magnesium acetate, sodium acetate/formate, or other environmentally acceptable, minimally corrosive anti-icing and de-icing compositions or install scour countermeasures to highway bridges located on public roads, other than those on a Federal-aid highway, or to complete the Warwick Intermodal Station (including the construction of a people mover between the Station and the T.F. Green Airport).

''(B) REDUCTION OF EXPENDITURES.—The Secretary, after consultation with State and local officials, may, with respect to the State, reduce the requirement for expenditure for bridges not on a Federal-aid highway if the Secretary determines that the State has inadequate needs to justify the expenditure.'';

(5) in subsection (i)—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking ''and'';

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and'';

(C) by striking ''Such reports'' and all that follows through ''to Congress.''; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) biennially submit such reports as are required under this subsection to the appropriate committees of Congress simultaneously with the report required by section 502(g).'';

(6) in the first sentence of subsection (n), by striking ''all standards'' and inserting ''all general engineering standards'';

(7) in subsection (o)—

(A) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking ''title (including this section)'' and inserting ''section''; and

(ii) by inserting ''200 percent of'' after ''shall not exceed''; and

(B) in paragraph (4)(B)—

(i) in the second sentence, by inserting ''200 percent of'' after ''not to exceed''; and

(ii) in the last sentence, by striking ''title'' and inserting ''section'';

(8) by redesignating subsections (h) through (q) as subsections (g) through (p), respectively; and

(9) by adding at the end the following:

''(q) CONTINUATION OF ANNUAL MATERIALS REPORT ON NEW BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION AND BRIDGE REHABILITATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a report describing construction materials used in new Federal-aid bridge construction and bridge rehabilitation projects.

''(r) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project payable from funds made available to carry out this section shall be the share applicable under section 120(b), as adjusted under subsection (d) of that section.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 144 and inserting the following:

''144. Highway bridge program.''.

SEC. 1808. APPALACHIAN DEVELOPMENT HIGHWAY SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1702(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 170. Appalachian development highway system

''(a) APPORTIONMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall apportion funds made available under section 1101(7) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 for fiscal years 2004 through 2009 among States based on the latest available estimate of the cost to construct highways and access roads for the Appalachian development highway system program prepared by the Appalachian Regional Commission under section 14501 of title 40.

''(2) AVAILABILITY.—Funds described in paragraph (1) shall be available to construct highways and access roads under chapter 145 of title 40.

''(b) APPLICABILITY OF TITLE.—Funds made available under section 1101(7) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 for the Appalachian development highway system shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under this chapter, except that—

''(1) the Federal share of the cost of any project under this section shall be determined in accordance with subtitle IV of title 40; and

''(2) the funds shall remain available until expended.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) USE OF TOLL CREDITS.—Section 120(j)(1) of title 23, United States Code is amended by inserting ''and the Appalachian development highway system program under subtitle IV of title 40'' after ''(other than the emergency relief program authorized by section 125''.

(2) ANALYSIS.—The analysis of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1702(b)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''170. Appalachian development highway system.''.

SEC. 1809. MULTISTATE CORRIDOR PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by 1808(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 171. Multistate corridor program

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—The Secretary shall carry out a program to—

''(1) support and encourage multistate transportation planning and development; and

''(2) facilitate transportation decisionmaking and coordinate project delivery involving multistate corridors.

''(b) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—A State transportation department and a metropolitan planning organization may receive and administer funds provided under this section.

''(c) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall make allocations under this program for multistate highway and multimodal planning studies and construction.

''(d) OTHER PROVISIONS REGARDING ELIGIBILITY.—

''(1) STUDIES.—All studies funded under this program shall be consistent with the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning processes required by sections 134 and 135.

''(2) CONSTRUCTION.—All construction funded under this program shall be consistent with section 133(b)(1).

''(e) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall select studies and projects to be carried out under the program based on—

''(1) the existence and significance of signed and binding multijurisdictional agreements;

''(2) endorsement of the study or project by applicable elected State and local representatives;

''(3) prospects for early completion of the study or project; or

''(4) whether the projects to be studied or constructed are located on corridors identified by section 1105(c) of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (Public Law 102-240; 105 Stat. 2032).

''(f) PROGRAM PRIORITIES.—In administering the program, the Secretary shall—

''(1) encourage and enable States and other jurisdictions to work together to develop plans for multimodal and multijurisdictional transportation decisionmaking; and

''(2) give priority to studies or projects that emphasize multimodal planning, including planning for operational improvements that—

''(A) increase—

''(i) mobility;

''(ii) freight productivity;

''(iii) access to marine or inland ports;

''(iv) safety and security; and

''(v) reliability; and

''(B) enhance the environment.

''(g) FEDERAL SHARE.—Except as provided in section 120, the Federal share of the cost of a study or project carried out under the program, using funds from all Federal sources, shall be 80 percent.

''(h) APPLICABILITY.—Funds authorized to be appropriated under section 1101(10) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 to carry out this section shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under this chapter.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1809(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''171. Multistate corridor program.''.

SEC. 1810. BORDER PLANNING, OPERATIONS, TECHNOLOGY, AND CAPACITY PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1809(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 172. Border planning, operations, technology, and capacity program

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) BORDER STATE.—The term 'border State' means any of the States of Alaska, Arizona, California, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Texas, Vermont, and Washington.

''(2) PROGRAM.—The term 'program' means the border planning, operations, technology, and capacity program established under subsection (b).

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a border planning, operations, technology, and capacity improvement program to support coordination and improvement in bi-national transportation planning, operations, efficiency, information exchange, safety, and security at the international borders of the United States with Canada and Mexico.

''(c) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make allocations under the program for projects to carry out eligible activities described in paragraph (2) at or near international land borders in border States.

''(2) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—A border State may obligate funds apportioned to the border State under this section for—

''(A) highway and multimodal planning or environmental studies;

''(B) cross-border port of entry and safety inspection improvements, including operational enhancements and technology applications;

''(C) technology and information exchange activities; and

''(D) right-of-way acquisition, design, and construction, as needed—

''(i) to implement the enhancements or applications described in subparagraphs (B) and (C);

''(ii) to decrease air pollution emissions from vehicles or inspection facilities at border crossings; or

''(iii) to increase highway capacity at or near international borders.

''(d) OTHER PROVISIONS REGARDING ELIGIBILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each project funded under the program shall be carried out in accordance with the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning processes required by sections 134 and 135.

''(2) REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS.—To be funded under the program, a regionally significant project shall be included on the applicable transportation plan and program required by sections 134 and 135.

''(e) PROGRAM PRIORITIES.—Border States shall give priority to projects that emphasize—

''(1) multimodal planning;

''(2) improvements in infrastructure; and

''(3) operational improvements that—

''(A) increase safety, security, freight capacity, or highway access to rail, marine, and air services; and

''(B) enhance the environment.

''(f) MANDATORY PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year, the Secretary shall allocate among border States, in accordance with the formula described in paragraph (2), funds to be used in accordance with subsection (d).

''(2) FORMULA.—Subject to paragraph (3), the amount allocated to a border State under this paragraph shall be determined by the Secretary, as follows:

''(A) 25 percent in the ratio that—

''(i) the average annual weight of all cargo entering the border State by commercial vehicle across the international border with Canada or Mexico, as the case may be; bears to

''(ii) the average annual weight of all cargo entering all border States by commercial vehicle across the international borders with Canada and Mexico.

''(B) 25 percent in the ratio that—

''(i) the average trade value of all cargo imported into the border State and all cargo exported from the border State by commercial vehicle across the international border with Canada or Mexico, as the case may be; bears to

''(ii) the average trade value of all cargo imported into all border States and all cargo exported from all border States by commercial vehicle across the international borders with Canada and Mexico.

''(C) 25 percent in the ratio that—

''(i) the number of commercial vehicles annually entering the border State across the international border with Canada or Mexico, as the case may be; bears to

''(ii) the number of all commercial vehicles annually entering all border States across the international borders with Canada and Mexico.

''(D) 25 percent in the ratio that—

''(i) the number of passenger vehicles annually entering the border State across the international border with Canada or Mexico, as the case may be; bears to

''(ii) the number of all passenger vehicles annually entering all border States across the international borders with Canada and Mexico.

''(3) DATA SOURCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The data used by the Secretary in making allocations under this subsection shall be based on the Bureau of Transportation Statistics Transborder Surface Freight Dataset (or other similar database).

''(B) BASIS OF CALCULATION.—All formula calculations shall be made using the average values for the most recent 5-year period for which data are available.

''(4) MINIMUM ALLOCATION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), for each fiscal year, each border State shall receive at least ½ of 1 percent of the funds made available for allocation under this paragraph for the fiscal year.

''(g) FEDERAL SHARE.—Except as provided in section 120, the Federal share of the cost of a project carried out under the program shall be 80 percent.

''(h) OBLIGATION.—Funds made available under section 1101(11) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 to carry out the program shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under this chapter.

''(i) INFORMATION EXCHANGE.—No individual project the scope of work of which is limited to information exchange shall receive an allocation under the program in an amount that exceeds $500,000 for any fiscal year.

''(j) PROJECTS IN CANADA OR MEXICO.—A project in Canada or Mexico, proposed by a border State to directly and predominantly facilitate cross-border vehicle and commercial cargo movements at an international gateway or port of entry into the border region of the State, may be constructed using funds made available under the program if, before obligation of those funds, Canada or Mexico, or the political subdivision of Canada or Mexico that is responsible for the operation of the facility to be constructed, provides assurances satisfactory to the Secretary that any facility constructed under this subsection will be—

''(1) constructed in accordance with standards equivalent to applicable standards in the United States; and

''(2) properly maintained and used over the useful life of the facility for the purpose for which the Secretary allocated funds to the project.

''(k) TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO THE GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION.—

''(1) STATE FUNDS.—At the request of a border State, funds made available under the program may be transferred to the General Services Administration for the purpose of funding 1 or more specific projects if—

''(A) the Secretary determines, after consultation with the State transportation department of the border State, that the General Services Administration should carry out the project; and

''(B) the General Services Administration agrees to accept the transfer of, and to administer, those funds.

''(2) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A border State that makes a request under paragraph (1) shall provide directly to the General Services Administration, for each project covered by the request, the non-Federal share of the cost of each project described in subsection (f).

''(B) NO AUGMENTATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Funds provided by a border State under subparagraph (A)—

''(i) shall not be considered to be an augmentation of the appropriations made available to the General Services Administration; and

''(ii) shall be—

''(I) administered in accordance with the procedures of the General Services Administration; but

''(II) available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under this chapter.

''(C) OBLIGATION AUTHORITY.—Obligation authority shall be transferred to the General Services Administration in the same manner and amount as the funds provided for projects under subparagraph (A).

''(3) DIRECT TRANSFER OF AUTHORIZED FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to allocations to States and metropolitan planning organizations under subsection (c), the Secretary may transfer funds made available to carry out this section to the General Services Administration for construction of transportation infrastructure projects at or near the border in border States, if—

''(i) the Secretary determines that the transfer is necessary to effectively carry out the purposes of this program; and

''(ii) the General Services Administration agrees to accept the transfer of, and to administer, those funds.

''(B) NO AUGMENTATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Funds transferred by the Secretary under subparagraph (A)—

''(i) shall not be considered to be an augmentation of the appropriations made available to the General Services Administration; and

''(ii) shall be—

''(I) administered in accordance with the procedures of the General Services Administration; but

''(II) available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under this chapter.

''(C) OBLIGATION AUTHORITY.—Obligation authority shall be transferred to the General Services Administration in the same manner and amount as the funds transferred under subparagraph (A).''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1809(b)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''172. Border planning, operations, and technology program.''.

SEC. 1811. PUERTO RICO HIGHWAY PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1810(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 173. Puerto Rico highway program

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allocate funds authorized by section 1101(15) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to carry out a highway program in the Commonwealth.

''(b) APPLICABILITY OF TITLE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts made available by section 1101(15) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if such funds were apportioned under this chapter.

''(2) LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS.—The amounts shall be subject to any limitation on obligations for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs.

''(c) TREATMENT OF FUNDS.—Amounts made available to carry out this section for a fiscal year shall be administered as follows:

''(1) APPORTIONMENT.—For the purpose of imposing any penalty under this title or title 49, the amounts shall be treated as being apportioned to Puerto Rico under sections 104(b) and 144, for each program funded under those sections in an amount determined by multiplying—

''(A) the aggregate of the amounts for the fiscal year; by

''(B) the ratio that—

''(i) the amount of funds apportioned to Puerto Rico for each such program for fiscal year 1997; bears to

''(ii) the total amount of funds apportioned to Puerto Rico for all such programs for fiscal year 1997.

''(2) PENALTY.—The amounts treated as being apportioned to Puerto Rico under each section referred to in paragraph (1) shall be deemed to be required to be apportioned to Puerto Rico under that section for purposes of the imposition of any penalty under this title and title 49.

''(3) EFFECT ON ALLOCATIONS AND APPORTIONMENTS.—Subject to paragraph (2), nothing in this section affects any allocation under section 105 and any apportionment under sections 104 and 144.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1810(b)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''173. Puerto Rico highway program.''.

SEC. 1812. NATIONAL HISTORIC COVERED BRIDGE PRESERVATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1811(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 174. National historic covered bridge preservation

''(a) DEFINITION OF HISTORIC COVERED BRIDGE.—In this section, the term 'historic covered bridge' means a covered bridge that is listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

''(b) HISTORIC COVERED BRIDGE PRESERVATION.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary shall—

''(1) collect and disseminate information on historic covered bridges;

''(2) conduct educational programs relating to the history and construction techniques of historic covered bridges;

''(3) conduct research on the history of historic covered bridges; and

''(4) conduct research on, and study techniques for, protecting historic covered bridges from rot, fire, natural disasters, or weight-related damage.

''(c) GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary shall make a grant to a State that submits an application to the Secretary that demonstrates a need for assistance in carrying out 1 or more historic covered bridge projects described in paragraph (2).

''(2) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—A grant under paragraph (1) may be made for a project—

''(A) to rehabilitate or repair a historic covered bridge; or

''(B) to preserve a historic covered bridge, including through—

''(i) installation of a fire protection system, including a fireproofing or fire detection system and sprinklers;

''(ii) installation of a system to prevent vandalism and arson; or

''(iii) relocation of a bridge to a preservation site.

''(3) AUTHENTICITY REQUIREMENTS.—A grant under paragraph (1) may be made for a project only if—

''(A) to the maximum extent practicable, the project—

''(i) is carried out in the most historically appropriate manner; and

''(ii) preserves the existing structure of the historic covered bridge; and

''(B) the project provides for the replacement of wooden components with wooden components, unless the use of wood is impracticable for safety reasons.

''(4) FEDERAL SHARE.—Except as provided in section 120, the Federal share of the cost of a project carried out with a grant under this subsection shall be 80 percent.

''(d) FUNDING.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $14,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, to remain available until expended.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1811(b)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''174. National historic covered bridge preservation.''.

SEC. 1813. TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY AND SYSTEM PRESERVATION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1812(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 175. Transportation and community and system preservation program

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a comprehensive program to facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of strategies by States, metropolitan planning organizations, federally-recognized Indian tribes, and local governments to integrate transportation, community, and system preservation plans and practices that address the goals described in subsection (b).

''(b) GOALS.—The goals of the program are to—

''(1) improve the efficiency of the transportation system in the United States;

''(2) reduce the impacts of transportation on the environment;

''(3) reduce the need for costly future investments in public infrastructure;

''(4) provide efficient access to jobs, services, and centers of trade; and

''(5) examine development patterns, and to identify strategies, to encourage private sector development patterns that achieve the goals identified in paragraphs (1) through (4).

''(c) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allocate funds made available to carry out this subsection to States, metropolitan planning organizations, and local governments to carry out projects to address transportation efficiency and community and system preservation.

''(2) CRITERIA.—In allocating funds made available to carry out this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to applicants that—

''(A) have instituted preservation or development plans and programs that—

''(i) meet the requirements of this title and chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code; and

''(ii)(I) are coordinated with State and local adopted preservation or development plans;

''(II) are intended to promote cost-effective and strategic investments in transportation infrastructure that minimize adverse impacts on the environment; or

''(III) are intended to promote innovative private sector strategies.

''(B) have instituted other policies to integrate transportation and community and system preservation practices, such as—

''(i) spending policies that direct funds to high-growth areas;

''(ii) urban growth boundaries to guide metropolitan expansion;

''(iii) 'green corridors' programs that provide access to major highway corridors for areas targeted for efficient and compact development; or

''(iv) other similar programs or policies as determined by the Secretary;

''(C) have preservation or development policies that include a mechanism for reducing potential impacts of transportation activities on the environment;

''(D) examine ways to encourage private sector investments that address the purposes of this section; and

''(E) propose projects for funding that address the purposes described in subsection (b)(2).

''(3) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—In allocating funds to carry out this subsection, the Secretary

shall ensure the equitable distribution of funds to a diversity of populations and geographic regions.

''(4) USE OF ALLOCATED FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—An allocation of funds made available to carry out this subsection shall be used by the recipient to implement the projects proposed in the application to the Secretary.

''(B) TYPES OF PROJECTS.—The allocation of funds shall be available for obligation for—

''(i) any project eligible for funding under this title or chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code; or

''(ii) any other activity relating to transportation and community and system preservation that the Secretary determines to be appropriate, including corridor preservation activities that are necessary to implement—

''(I) transit-oriented development plans;

''(II) traffic calming measures; or

''(III) other coordinated transportation and community and system preservation practices.

''(d) FUNDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out this section $50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

''(2) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—Funds authorized under this subsection shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under this chapter.''.

(b) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1701(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(18) Transportation and community system preservation to facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of strategies of metropolitan planning organizations and local governments to integrate transportation, community, and system preservation plans and practices that address the following:

''(A) Improvement of the efficiency of the transportation system in the United States.

''(B) Reduction of the impacts of transportation on the environment.

''(C) Reduction of the need for costly future investments in public infrastructure.

''(D) Provision of efficient access to jobs, services, and centers of trade.

''(E) Examination of development patterns, and identification of strategies to encourage private sector development patterns, that achieve the goals identified in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

''(19) Projects relating to intersections, including intersections—

''(A) that—

''(i) have disproportionately high accident rates;

''(ii) have high levels of congestion, as evidenced by—

''(I) interrupted traffic flow at the intersection; and

''(II) a level of service rating, issued by the Transportation Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences in accordance with the Highway Capacity Manual, that is not better than 'F' during peak travel hours; and

''(iii) are directly connected to or located on a Federal-aid highway; and

''(B) improvements that are approved in the regional plan of the appropriate local metropolitan planning organization.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1812(b)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''175. Transportation and community and system preservation pilot program.''.

SEC. 1814. PARKING PILOT PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1813(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 176. Parking pilot programs

''(a) COMMERCIAL TRUCK PARKING PILOT PROGRAM.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—In cooperation with appropriate State, regional, and local governments, the Secretary shall establish a pilot program to address the shortage of long-term parking for drivers of commercial motor vehicles on the National Highway System.

''(2) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allocate funds made available under this subsection to States, metropolitan planning organizations, and local governments.

''(B) CRITERIA.—In allocating funds under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to an applicant that—

''(i) demonstrates a severe shortage of commercial vehicle parking capacity on the corridor to be addressed;

''(ii) consults with affected State and local governments, community groups, private providers of commercial vehicle parking, and motorist and trucking organizations; and

''(iii) demonstrates that the project proposed by the applicant is likely to have a positive effect on highway safety, traffic congestion, or air quality.

''(3) USE OF ALLOCATED FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A recipient of funds allocated under this subsection shall use the funds to carry out the project proposed in the application submitted by the recipient to the Secretary.

''(B) TYPES OF PROJECTS.—Funds under this subsection shall be available for obligation for projects that serve the National Highway System, including—

''(i) construction of safety rest areas that include parking for commercial motor vehicles;

''(ii) construction of commercial motor vehicle parking facilities that are adjacent to commercial truck stops and travel plazas;

''(iii) costs associated with the opening of facilities (including inspection and weigh stations and park-and-ride facilities) to provide commercial motor vehicle parking;

''(iv) projects that promote awareness of the availability of public or private commercial motor vehicle parking on the National Highway System, including parking in connection with intelligent transportation systems and other systems;

''(v) construction of turnouts along the National Highway System for commercial motor vehicles;

''(vi) capital improvements to public commercial motor vehicle truck parking facilities closed on a seasonal basis in order to allow the facilities to remain open year-around; and

''(vii) improvements to the geometric design at interchanges on the National Highway System to improve access to commercial motor vehicle parking facilities.

''(4) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the results of the pilot program carried out under this subsection.

''(5) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project carried out under this subsection shall be consistent with section 120.

''(6) FUNDING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out this subsection $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2005 through 2009.

''(B) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—Funds authorized under this paragraph shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under this chapter.

''(b) CORRIDOR AND FRINGE PARKING PILOT PROGRAM.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In cooperation with appropriate State, regional, and local governments, the Secretary shall carry out a pilot program to provide corridor and fringe parking facilities.

''(B) PRIMARY FUNCTION.—The primary function of a corridor and fringe parking facility funded under this subsection shall be to provide parking capacity to support car pooling, van pooling, ride sharing, commuting, and high occupancy vehicle travel.

''(C) OVERNIGHT PARKING.—A State may permit a facility described in subparagraph (B) to be used for the overnight parking of commercial vehicles if the use does not foreclose or unduly limit the primary function of the facility described in subparagraph (B).

''(2) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allocate funds made available to carry out this subsection to States.

''(B) CRITERIA.—In allocating funds under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to a State that—

''(i) demonstrates demand for corridor and fringe parking on the corridor to be addressed;

''(ii) consults with affected metropolitan planning organizations, local governments, community groups, and providers of corridor and fringe parking; and

''(iii) demonstrates that the project proposed by the State is likely to have a positive effect on ride sharing, traffic congestion, or air quality.

''(3) USE OF ALLOCATED FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A recipient of funds allocated under this subsection shall use the funds to carry out the project proposed in the application submitted by the recipient to the Secretary.

''(B) TYPES OF PROJECTS.—Funds under this subsection shall be available for obligation for projects that serve the Federal-aid system, including—

''(i) construction of corridor and fringe parking facilities;

''(ii) costs associated with the opening of facilities;

''(iii) projects that promote awareness of the availability of corridor and fringe parking through the use of signage and other means;

''(iv) capital improvements to corridor and fringe parking facilities closed on a seasonal basis in order to allow the facilities to remain open year-around; and

''(v) improvements to the geometric design on adjoining roadways to facilitate access to, and egress from, corridor and fringe parking facilities.

''(4) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the results of the pilot program carried out under this subsection.

''(5) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project carried out under this subsection shall be consistent with section 120.

''(6) FUNDING.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out this subsection $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2005 through 2009.

''(B) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—Funds authorized under this paragraph shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under this chapter.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter I of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1813(c)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''176. Parking pilot programs.''.

SEC. 1815. INTERSTATE OASIS PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1814(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 177. Interstate oasis program

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, in consultation with the States and other interested parties, the Secretary shall—

''(1) establish an Interstate oasis program; and

''(2) develop standards for designating, as an Interstate oasis, a facility that—

''(A) offers—

''(i) products and services to the public;

''(ii) 24-hour access to restrooms; and

''(iii) parking for automobiles and heavy trucks; and

''(B) meets other standards established by the Secretary.

''(b) STANDARDS FOR DESIGNATION.—The standards for designation under subsection (a) shall include standards relating to—

''(1) the appearance of a facility; and

''(2) the proximity of the facility to the Interstate System.

''(c) ELIGIBILITY FOR DESIGNATION.—If a State elects to participate in the interstate oasis program, any facility meeting the standards established by the Secretary shall be eligible for designation under this section.

''(d) LOGO.—The Secretary shall design a logo to be displayed by a facility designated under this section.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for subchapter I of chapter I of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1814(b)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''177. Interstate oasis program.''.

SEC. 1816. TRIBAL-STATE ROAD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS.

Section 204 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1806(f)(4)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(n) TRIBAL-STATE ROAD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, regulation, policy, or guideline, an Indian tribe and a State may enter into a road maintenance agreement under which an Indian tribe assumes the responsibilities of the State for—

''(A) Indian reservation roads; and

''(B) roads providing access to Indian reservation roads.

''(2) TRIBAL-STATE AGREEMENTS.—Agreements entered into under paragraph (1)—

''(A) shall be negotiated between the State and the Indian tribe; and

''(B) shall not require the approval of the Secretary.

''(3) ANNUAL REPORT.—Effective beginning with fiscal year 2004, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to Congress an annual report that identifies—

''(A) the Indian tribes and States that have entered into agreements under paragraph (1);

''(B) the number of miles of roads for which Indian tribes have assumed maintenance responsibilities; and

''(C) the amount of funding transferred to Indian tribes for the fiscal year under agreements entered into under paragraph (1).''.

SEC. 1817. NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM ROADS.

Section 205 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) Of the amounts made available for National Forest System roads, $15,000,000 for each fiscal year shall be used by the Secretary of Agriculture to pay the costs of facilitating the passage of aquatic species beneath roads in the National Forest System, including the costs of constructing, maintaining, replacing, or removing culverts and bridges, as appropriate.''.

SEC. 1818. TERRITORIAL HIGHWAY PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 2 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking section 215 and inserting the following:

''§ 215. Territorial highway program

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) PROGRAM.—The term 'program' means the territorial highway program established under subsection (b).

''(2) TERRITORY.—The term 'territory' means the any of the following territories of the United States:

''(A) American Samoa.

''(B) The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

''(C) Guam.

''(D) The United States Virgin Islands.

''(b) PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Recognizing the mutual benefits that will accrue to the territories and the United States from the improvement of highways in the territories, the Secretary may carry out a program to assist each territorial government in the construction and improvement of a system of arterial and collector highways, and necessary inter-island connectors, that is—

''(A) designated by the Governor or chief executive officer of each territory; and

''(B) approved by the Secretary.

''(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Secretary shall provide Federal financial assistance to territories under this section in accordance with section 120(h).

''(c) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To continue a long-range highway development program, the Secretary may provide technical assistance to the governments of the territories to enable the territories to, on a continuing basis—

''(A) engage in highway planning;

''(B) conduct environmental evaluations;

''(C) administer right-of-way acquisition and relocation assistance programs; and

''(D) design, construct, operate, and maintain a system of arterial and collector highways, including necessary inter-island connectors.

''(2) FORM AND TERMS OF ASSISTANCE.—Technical assistance provided under paragraph (1), and the terms for the sharing of information among territories receiving the technical assistance, shall be included in the agreement required by subsection (e).

''(d) NONAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except to the extent that provisions of chapter 1 are determined by the Secretary to be inconsistent with the needs of the territories and the intent of the program, chapter 1 (other than provisions of chapter 1 relating to the apportionment and allocation of funds) shall apply to funds authorized to be appropriated for the program.

''(2) APPLICABLE PROVISIONS.—The specific sections of chapter 1 that are applicable to each territory, and the extent of the applicability of those section, shall be identified in the agreement required by subsection (e).

''(e) AGREEMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), none of the funds made available for the program shall be available for obligation or expenditure with respect to any territory until the Governor or chief executive officer of the territory enters into a new agreement with the Secretary (which new agreement shall be entered into not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004), providing that the government of the territory shall—

''(A) implement the program in accordance with applicable provisions of chapter 1 and subsection (d);

''(B) design and construct a system of arterial and collector highways, including necessary inter-island connectors, in accordance with standards that are—

''(i) appropriate for each territory; and

''(ii) approved by the Secretary;

''(C) provide for the maintenance of facilities constructed or operated under this section in a condition to adequately serve the needs of present and future traffic; and

''(D) implement standards for traffic operations and uniform traffic control devices that are approved by the Secretary.

''(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The new agreement required by paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) specify the kind of technical assistance to be provided under the program;

''(B) include appropriate provisions regarding information sharing among the territories; and

''(C) delineate the oversight role and responsibilities of the territories and the Secretary.

''(3) REVIEW AND REVISION OF AGREEMENT.—The new agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall be reevaluated and, as necessary, revised, at least every 2 years.

''(4) EXISTING AGREEMENTS.—With respect to an agreement between the Secretary and the Governor or chief executive officer of a territory that is in effect as of the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004—

''(A) the agreement shall continue in force until replaced by a new agreement in accordance with paragraph (1); and

''(B) amounts made available for the program under the agreement shall be available for obligation or expenditure so long as the agreement, or a new agreement under paragraph (1), is in effect.

''(f) PERMISSIBLE USES OF FUNDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Funds made available for the program may be used only for the following projects and activities carried out in a territory:

''(A) Eligible surface transportation program projects described in section 133(b).

''(B) Cost-effective, preventive maintenance consistent with section 116.

''(C) Ferry boats, terminal facilities, and approaches, in accordance with subsections (b) and (c) of section 129.

''(D) Engineering and economic surveys and investigations for the planning, and the financing, of future highway programs.

''(E) Studies of the economy, safety, and convenience of highway use.

''(F) The regulation and equitable taxation of highway use.

''(G) Such research and development as are necessary in connection with the planning, design, and maintenance of the highway system.

''(2) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE.—None of the funds made available for the program shall be obligated or expended for routine maintenance.

''(g) LOCATION OF PROJECTS.—Territorial highway projects (other than those described in paragraphs (1), (3), and (4) of section 133(b)) may not be undertaken on roads functionally classified as local.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—Section 103(b)(6) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraph (P) and inserting the following:

''(P) Projects eligible for assistance under the territorial highway program under section 215.''.

(2) FUNDING.—Section 104(b)(1)(A) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking ''to the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands'' and inserting ''for the territorial highway program authorized under section 215''.

(3) ANALYSIS.—The analysis for chapter 2 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 215 and inserting the following:

''215. Territorial highway program.''.

SEC. 1819. MAGNETIC LEVITATION TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

Section 322 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''Not later than'' and inserting the following:

''(1) INITIAL SOLICITATION.—Not later than''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) ADDITIONAL SOLICITATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary may solicit additional applications from States, or authorities designated by 1 or more States, for financial assistance authorized by subsection (b) for planning, design, and construction of eligible MAGLEV projects.'';

(2) in subsection (e), by striking ''Prior to soliciting applications, the Secretary'' and inserting ''The Secretary'';

(3) in subsection (h)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:

''(i) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out this section $15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:

''(i) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out this section—

''(I) $375,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

''(II) $400,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;

''(III) $415,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;

''(IV) $425,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;

''(V) $435,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

''(VI) $450,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.''; and

(4) by striking subsection (i).

SEC. 1820. DONATIONS AND CREDITS.

Section 323 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (c), by inserting '', or a local government from offering to donate funds, materials, or services performed by local government employees,'' after ''services''; and

(2) striking subsection (e).

SEC. 1821. DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—Except to the extent that the Secretary determines otherwise, not less than 10 percent of the amounts made available for any program under titles I, II, and III of this Act shall be expended with small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''small business concern'' has the meaning given the term under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term ''small business concern'' does not include any concern or group of concerns controlled by the same socially and economically disadvantaged individual or individuals that has average annual gross receipts over the preceding 3 fiscal years in excess of $17,420,000, as adjusted by the Secretary for inflation.

(2) SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED INDIVIDUALS.—The term ''socially and economically disadvantaged individuals'' has the meaning given the term under section 8(d) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(d)) and relevant subcontracting regulations promulgated under that section, except that women shall be presumed to be socially and economically disadvantaged individuals for the purposes of this section.

(c) ANNUAL LISTING OF DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.—Each State shall annually survey and compile a list of the small business concerns referred to in subsection (a) and the location of such concerns in the State and notify the Secretary, in writing, of the percentage of such concerns which are controlled by women, by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (other than women), and by individuals who are women and are otherwise socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.

(d) UNIFORM CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall establish minimum uniform criteria for State governments to use in certifying whether a concern qualifies for purposes of this section. Such minimum uniform criteria shall include on-site visits, personal interviews, licenses, analysis of stock ownership, listing of equipment, analysis of bonding capacity, listing of work completed, resume of principal owners, financial capacity, and type of work preferred.

(e) COMPLIANCE WITH COURT ORDERS.—Nothing in this section limits the eligibility of an entity or person to receive funds made available under titles I, III, and V of this Act, if the entity or person is prevented, in whole or in part, from complying with subsection (a) because a Federal court issues a final order in which the court finds that the requirement of subsection (a), or the program established under subsection (a), is unconstitutional.

SEC. 1822. EMERGENCY RELIEF.

Section 125(c)(1) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking $100,000,000'' and inserting ''$300,000,000''.

SEC. 1823. PRIORITY FOR PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE FACILITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS.

Section 133(e)(5) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(D) PRIORITY FOR PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE FACILITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall encourage States to give priority to pedestrian and bicycle facility enhancement projects that include a coordinated physical activity or healthy lifestyles program.''.

SEC. 1824. THE DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1814(a)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 178. Delta Region transportation development program

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program to—

''(1) support and encourage multistate transportation planning and corridor development;

''(2) provide for transportation project development;

''(3) facilitate transportation decisionmaking; and

''(4) support transportation construction.

''(b) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—A State transportation department or metropolitan planning organization may receive and administer funds provided under the program.

''(c) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall make allocations under the program for multistate highway and transit planning, development, and construction projects.

''(d) OTHER PROVISIONS REGARDING ELIGIBILITY.—All activities funded under this program shall be consistent with the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning processes required by section 134 and 135.

''(e) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall select projects to be carried out under the program based on—

''(1) whether the project is located—

''(A) in an area that is part of the Delta Regional Authority; and

''(B) on the Federal-aid system;

''(2) endorsement of the project by the State department of transportation; and

''(3) evidence of the ability to complete the project.

''(f) PROGRAM PRIORITIES.—In administering the program, the Secretary shall—

''(1) encourage State and local officials to work together to develop plans for multimodal and multijurisdictional transportation decisionmaking; and

''(2) give priority to projects that emphasize multimodal planning, including planning for operational improvements that—

''(A) increase the mobility of people and goods;

''(B) improve the safety of the transportation system with respect to catastrophic—

''(i) natural disasters; or

''(ii) disasters caused by human activity; and

''(C) contribute to the economic vitality of the area in which the project is being carried out.

''(g) FEDERAL SHARE.—Amounts provided by the Delta Regional Authority to carry out a project under this section shall be applied to the non-Federal share required by section 120.

''(h) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts made available to carry out this section shall remain available until expended.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 1814(b)), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''178. Delta Region transportation development program.''.

SEC. 1825. MULTISTATE INTERNATIONAL CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a program to develop international trade corridors to facilitate the movement of freight from international ports of entry and inland ports through and to the interior of the United States.

(b) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—State transportation departments and metropolitan planning organizations shall be eligible to receive and administer funds provided under the program.

(c) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall make allocations under this program for any activity eligible for funding under title 23, United States Code, including multistate highway and multistate multimodal planning and project construction.

(d) OTHER PROVISIONS REGARDING ELIGIBILITY.—All activities funded under this program shall be consistent with the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning processes required by sections 134 and 135 of title 23, United States Code.

(e) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall only select projects for corridors—

(1) that have significant levels or increases in truck and traffic volume relating to international freight movement;

(2) connect to at least 1 international terminus or inland port;

(3) traverse at least 3 States; and

(4) are identified by section 115(c) of the Intermodal Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (Public Law 102–240; 105 Stat. 2032).

(f) PROGRAM PRIORITIES.—In administering the program, the Secretary shall—

(1) encourage and enable States and other jurisdictions to work together to develop plans for multimodal and multijurisdictional transportation decisionmaking; and

(2) give priority to studies that emphasize multimodal planning, including planning for operational improvements that increase mobility, freight productivity, access to marine ports, safety, and security while enhancing the environment.

(g) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share required for any study carried out under this section shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under chapter I of title 23, United States Code.

SEC. 1826. AUTHORIZATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORITY FOR STATES WITH INDIAN RESERVATIONS.

Section 1214(d)(5)(A) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (23 U.S.C. 202 note; 112 Stat. 206) is amended by striking ''$1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 1998 through 2003'' and inserting ''$1,800,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009''.

Subtitle I—Technical Corrections

SEC. 1901. REPEAL OR UPDATE OF OBSOLETE TEXT.

(a) LETTING OF CONTRACTS.—Section 112 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (f); and

(2) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (f).

(b) FRINGE AND CORRIDOR PARKING FACILITIES.—Section 137(a) of title 23, United States Code, is amended in the first sentence by striking ''on the Federal-aid urban system'' and inserting ''on a Federal-aid highway''.

SEC. 1902. CLARIFICATION OF DATE.

Section 109(g) of title 23, United States Code, is amended in the first sentence by striking ''The Secretary'' and all that follows through

''of 1970'' and inserting ''Not later than January 30, 1971, the Secretary shall issue''.

SEC. 1903. INCLUSION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR SIGNS IDENTIFYING FUNDING SOURCES IN TITLE 23.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 154 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1987 (23 U.S.C. 101 note; 101 Stat. 209) is—

(1) transferred to title 23, United States Code;

(2) redesignated as section 321;

(3) moved to appear after section 320 of that title; and

(4) amended by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

''§ 321. Signs identifying funding sources''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 320 the following:

''321. Signs identifying funding sources.''.

SEC. 1904. INCLUSION OF BUY AMERICA REQUIREMENTS IN TITLE 23.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 165 of the Highway Improvement Act of 1982 (23 U.S.C. 101 note; 96 Stat. 2136) is—

(1) transferred to title 23, United States Code;

(2) redesignated as section 313;

(3) moved to appear after section 312 of that title; and

(4) amended by striking the section heading and inserting the following:

''§ 313. Buy America''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The analysis for chapter 3 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 312 the following:

''313. Buy America.''.

(2) Section 313 of title 23, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)), is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''by this Act'' the first place it appears and all that follows through ''of 1978'' and inserting ''to carry out the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982 (96 Stat. 2097) or this title'';

(B) in subsection (b), by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (3);

(C) in subsection (d), by striking ''this Act,'' and all that follows through ''Code, which'' and inserting ''the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982 (96 Stat. 2097) or this title that'';

(D) by striking subsection (e); and

(E) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as subsections (e) and (f), respectively.

SEC. 1905. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO NONDISCRIMINATION SECTION.

Section 140 of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''subsection (a) of section 105 of this title'' and inserting ''section 135'';

(B) in the second sentence, by striking ''He'' and inserting ''The Secretary'';

(C) in the third sentence, by striking ''where he considers it necessary to assure'' and inserting ''if necessary to ensure''; and

(D) in the last sentence—

(i) by striking ''him'' and inserting ''the Secretary'' and

(ii) by striking ''he'' and inserting ''the Secretary'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''highway construction'' and inserting ''surface transportation''; and

(B) in the second sentence—

(i) by striking ''as he may deem necessary'' and inserting ''as necessary''; and

(ii) by striking ''not to exceed $2,500,000 for the transition quarter ending September 30, 1976, and'';

(3) in the second sentence of subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''subsection 104(b)(3) of this title'' and inserting ''section 104(b)(3)''; and

(B) by striking ''he may deem''; and

(4) in the heading of subsection (d), by striking ''AND CONTRACTING''.

TITLE II—TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH

Subtitle A—Funding

SEC. 2001. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The following sums are authorized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account):

(1) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For carrying out sections 502, 503, 506, 507, 508, and 511 of title 23, United States Code—

(i) $211,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 and 2005;

(ii) $215,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;

(iii) $218,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;

(iv) $220,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

(v) $223,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(B) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION-ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM.—For each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, the Secretary shall set aside $20,000,000 of the funds authorized under subparagraph (A) to carry out the surface transportation-environmental cooperative research program under section 507 of title 23, United States Code.

(2) TRAINING AND EDUCATION.—For carrying out section 504 of title 23, United States Code—

(A) $27,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

(B) $28,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;

(C) $29,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;

(D) $30,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;

(E) $31,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

(F) $32,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(3) BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS.—For the Bureau of Transportation Statistics to carry out section 111 of title 49, United States Code, $28,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(4) ITS STANDARDS, RESEARCH, OPERATIONAL TESTS, AND DEVELOPMENT.—For carrying out sections 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, and 529 of title 23, United States Code—

(A) $120,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

(B) $123,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;

(C) $126,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;

(D) $129,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;

(E) $132,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

(F) $135,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(5) UNIVERSITY TRANSPORTATION CENTERS.—For carrying out section 510 of title 23, United States Code—

(A) $40,000,000 for fiscal year 2004; and

(B) $45,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2005 through 2009.

(b) APPLICABILITY OF TITLE 23, UNITED STATES CODE.—Funds authorized to be appropriated by subsection (a)—

(1) shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, except that the Federal share of the cost of a project or activity carried out using the funds shall be the share applicable under section 120(b) of title 23, United States Code, as adjusted under subsection (d) of that section (unless otherwise specified or otherwise determined by the Secretary); and

(2) shall remain available until expended.

(c) ALLOCATIONS.—

(1) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH.—Of the amounts made available under subsection (a)(1)—

(A) $27,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be available to carry out advanced, high-risk, long-term research under section 502(d) of title 23, United States Code;

(B) $18,000,000 for fiscal years 2004 and 2005, $17,000,000 for fiscal year 2006, $15,000,000 for fiscal year 2007, $12,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, and $10,00,000 for fiscal year 2009 shall be available to carry out the long-term pavement performance program under section 502(e) of that title;

(C) $6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be available to carry out the high-performance concrete bridge research and technology transfer program under section 502(i) of that title;

(D) $6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be made available to carry out research on asphalt used in highway pavements;

(E) $6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be made available to carry out research on concrete pavements;

(F) $3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be made available to carry out research on aggregates used in highway pavements;

(G) $4,750,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be made available for further development and deployment of techniques to prevent and mitigate alkali silica reactivity;

(H) $2,000,000 for fiscal year 2005 shall be remain available until expended for asphalt and asphalt-related reclamation research at the South Dakota School of Mines; and

(I) $3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be made available to carry out section 502(f)(3) of title 23, United States Code.

(2) TECHNOLOGY APPLICATION PROGRAM.—Of the amounts made available under subsection (a)(1), $60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be available to carry out section 503 of title 23, United States Code.

(3) TRAINING AND EDUCATION.—Of the amounts made available under subsection (a)(2)—

(A) $12,000,000 for fiscal year 2004, $12,500,000 for fiscal year 2005, $13,000,000 for fiscal year 2006, $13,500,000 for fiscal year 2007, $14,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, and $14,500,000 for fiscal year 2009 shall be available to carry out section 504(a) of title 23, United States Code (relating to the National Highway Institute);

(B) $15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be available to carry out section 504(b) of that title (relating to local technical assistance); and

(C) $3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be available to carry out section 504(c)(2) of that title (relating to the Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program).

(4) INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION OUTREACH PROGRAM.—Of the amounts made available under subsection (a)(1), $500,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be available to carry out section 506 of title 23, United States Code.

(5) NEW STRATEGIC HIGHWAY RESEARCH PROGRAM.—For each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, to carry out section 509 of title 23, United States Code, the Secretary shall set aside—

(A) $15,000,000 of the amounts made available to carry out the interstate maintenance program under section 119 of title 23, United States Code, for the fiscal year;

(B) $19,000,000 of the amounts made available for the National Highway System under section 101 of title 23, United States Code, for the fiscal year;

(C) $13,000,000 of the amounts made available to carry out the bridge program under section 144 of title 23, United States Code, for the fiscal year;

(D) $20,000,000 of the amounts made available to carry out the surface transportation program under section 133 of title 23, United States Code, for the fiscal year;

(E) $5,000,000 of the amounts made available to carry out the congestion mitigation and air quality improvement program under section 149 of title 23, United States Code, for the fiscal year; and

(F) $3,000,000 of the amounts made available to carry out the highway safety improvement program under section 148 of title 23, United States Code, for the fiscal year.

(6) COMMERCIAL VEHICLE INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM.—Of the amounts made available under subsection (a)(4), not less than $30,000,000 for each of fiscal

years 2004 through 2009 shall be available to carry out section 527 of title 23, United States Code.

(d) TRANSFERS OF FUNDS.—The Secretary may transfer—

(1) to an amount made available under paragraphs (1), (2), or (4) of subsection (c), not to exceed 10 percent of the amount allocated for a fiscal year under any other of those paragraphs; and

(2) to an amount made available under subparagraphs (A), (B), or (C) of subsection (c)(3), not to exceed 10 percent of the amount allocated for a fiscal year under any other of those subparagraphs.

SEC. 2002. OBLIGATION CEILING.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the total of all obligations from amounts made available from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) by section 2001(a) shall not exceed—

(1) $426,200,000 for fiscal year 2004;
(2) $435,200,000 for fiscal year 2005;
(3) $443,200,000 for fiscal year 2006;
(4) $450,200,000 for fiscal year 2007;
(5) $456,200,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
(6) $463,200,000 for fiscal year 2009.

SEC. 2003. NOTICE.

(a) NOTICE OF REPROGRAMMING.—If any funds authorized for carrying out this title or the amendments made by this title are subject to a reprogramming action that requires notice to be provided to the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, notice of that action shall be concurrently provided to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Science of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate.

(b) NOTICE OF REORGANIZATION.—On or before the 15th day preceding the date of any major reorganization of a program, project, or activity of the Department of Transportation for which funds are authorized by this title or the amendments made by this title, the Secretary shall provide notice of the reorganization to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Science of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate.

Subtitle B—Research and Technology

SEC. 2101. RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 5 of title 23, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"CHAPTER 5—RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

"SUBCHAPTER I—SURFACE TRANSPORTATION

"Sec.
"501. Definitions.
"502. Surface transportation research.
"503. Technology application program.
"504. Training and education.
"505. State planning and research.
"506. International highway transportation outreach program.
"507. Surface transportation-environmental cooperative research program.
"508. Surface transportation research technology deployment and strategic planning.
"509. New strategic highway research program.
"510. University transportation centers.
"511. Multistate corridor operations and management.
"512. Transportation analysis simulation system.
"SUBCHAPTER II—INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
"521. Finding.
"522. Goals and purposes.
"523. Definitions.
"524. General authorities and requirements.
"525. National ITS Program Plan.
"526. National ITS architecture and standards.
"527. Commercial vehicle intelligent transportation system infrastructure program.
"528. Research and development.
"529. Use of funds.

"SUBCHAPTER I—SURFACE TRANSPORTATION

"§ 501. Definitions

"In this subchapter:

"(1) FEDERAL LABORATORY.—The term 'Federal laboratory' includes—

"(A) a Government-owned, Government-operated laboratory; and

"(B) a Government-owned, contractor-operated laboratory.

"(2) SAFETY.—The term 'safety' includes highway and traffic safety systems, research, and development relating to—

"(A) vehicle, highway, driver, passenger, bicyclist, and pedestrian characteristics;

"(B) accident investigations;

"(C) integrated, interoperable emergency communications;

"(D) emergency medical care; and

"(E) transportation of the injured.

"§ 502. Surface transportation research

"(a) IN GENERAL.—

"(1) RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary may carry out research, development, and technology transfer activities with respect to—

"(A) all phases of transportation planning and development (including new technologies, construction, transportation systems management and operations development, design, maintenance, safety, security, financing, data collection and analysis, demand forecasting, multimodal assessment, and traffic conditions); and

"(B) the effect of State laws on the activities described in subparagraph (A).

"(2) TESTS AND DEVELOPMENT.—The Secretary may test, develop, or assist in testing and developing, any material, invention, patented article, or process.

"(3) COOPERATION, GRANTS, AND CONTRACTS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry out this section—

"(i) independently;

"(ii) in cooperation with—

"(I) any other Federal agency or instrumentality; and

"(II) any Federal laboratory; or

"(iii) by making grants to, or entering into contracts, cooperative agreements, and other transactions with—

"(I) the National Academy of Sciences;

"(II) the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials;

"(III) planning organizations;

"(IV) a Federal laboratory;

"(V) a State agency;

"(VI) an authority, association, institution, or organization;

"(VII) a for-profit or nonprofit corporation;

"(VIII) a foreign country; or

"(IX) any other person.

"(B) COMPETITION; REVIEW.—All parties entering into contracts, cooperative agreements or other transactions with the Secretary, or receiving grants, to perform research or provide technical assistance under this section shall be selected, to the maximum extent practicable and appropriate—

"(i) on a competitive basis; and

"(ii) on the basis of the results of peer review of proposals submitted to the Secretary.

"(4) TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION.—The programs and activities carried out under this section shall be consistent with the surface transportation research and technology development strategic plan developed under section 508(c).

"(5) FUNDS.—

"(A) SPECIAL ACCOUNT.—In addition to other funds made available to carry out this section, the Secretary shall use such funds as may be deposited by any cooperating organization or person in a special account of the Treasury established for this purpose.

"(B) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall use funds made available to carry out this section to develop, administer, communicate, and promote the use of products of research, development, and technology transfer programs under this section.

"(b) COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—To encourage innovative solutions to surface transportation problems and stimulate the deployment of new technology, the Secretary may carry out, on a cost-shared basis, collaborative research and development with—

"(A) non-Federal entities (including State and local governments, foreign governments, colleges and universities, corporations, institutions, partnerships, sole proprietorships, and trade associations that are incorporated or established under the laws of any State); and

"(B) Federal laboratories.

"(2) AGREEMENTS.—In carrying out this subsection, the Secretary may enter into cooperative research and development agreements (as defined in section 12 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710a)).

"(3) FEDERAL SHARE.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the cost of activities carried out under a cooperative research and development agreement entered into under this subsection shall not exceed 50 percent, except that if there is substantial public interest or benefit, the Secretary may approve a greater Federal share.

"(B) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—All costs directly incurred by the non-Federal partners, including personnel, travel, and hardware development costs, shall be credited toward the non-Federal share of the cost of the activities described in subparagraph (A).

"(4) USE OF TECHNOLOGY.—The research, development, or use of a technology under a cooperative research and development agreement entered into under this subsection, including the terms under which the technology may be licensed and the resulting royalties may be distributed, shall be subject to the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.).

"(5) WAIVER OF ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 5) shall not apply to a contract or agreement entered into under this chapter.

"(c) CONTENTS OF RESEARCH PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall include as priority areas of effort within the surface transportation research program—

"(1) the development of new technologies and methods in materials, pavements, structures, design, and construction, with the objectives of—

"(A)(i) increasing to 50 years the expected life of pavements;

"(ii) increasing to 100 years the expected life of bridges; and

"(iii) significantly increasing the durability of other infrastructure;

"(B) lowering the life-cycle costs, including—

"(i) construction costs;

"(ii) maintenance costs;

"(iii) operations costs; and

"(vi) user costs.

"(2) the development, and testing for effectiveness, of nondestructive evaluation technologies for civil infrastructure using existing and new technologies;

"(3) the investigation of—

"(A) the application of current natural hazard mitigation techniques to manmade hazards; and

"(B) the continuation of hazard mitigation research combining manmade and natural hazards;

''(4) the improvement of safety—

''(A) at intersections;

''(B) with respect to accidents involving vehicles run off the road; and

''(C) on rural roads;

''(5) the reduction of work zone incursions and improvement of work zone safety;

''(6) the improvement of geometric design of roads for the purpose of safety;

''(7) the examination of data collected through the national bridge inventory conducted under section 144 using the national bridge inspection standards established under section 151, with the objectives of determining whether—

''(A) the most useful types of data are being collected; and

''(B) any improvement could be made in the types of data collected and the manner in which the data is collected, with respect to bridges in the United States;

''(8) the improvement of the infrastructure investment needs report described in subsection (g) through—

''(A) the study and implementation of new methods of collecting better quality data, particularly with respect to performance, congestion, and infrastructure conditions;

''(B) monitoring of the surface transportation system in a system-wide manner, through the use of—

''(i) intelligent transportation system technologies of traffic operations centers; and

''(ii) other new data collection technologies as sources of better quality performance data;

''(C) the determination of the critical metrics that should be used to determine the condition and performance of the surface transportation system; and

''(D) the study and implementation of new methods of statistical analysis and computer models to improve the prediction of future infrastructure investment requirements;

''(9) the development of methods to improve the determination of benefits from infrastructure improvements, including—

''(A) more accurate calculations of benefit-to-cost ratios, considering benefits and impacts throughout local and regional transportation systems;

''(B) improvements in calculating life-cycle costs; and

''(C) valuation of assets;

''(10) the improvement of planning processes to better predict outcomes of transportation projects, including the application of computer simulations in the planning process to predict outcomes of planning decisions;

''(11) the multimodal applications of Geographic Information Systems and remote sensing, including such areas of application as—

''(A) planning;

''(B) environmental decisionmaking and project delivery; and

''(C) freight movement;

''(12) the development and application of methods of providing revenues to the Highway Trust Fund with the objective of offsetting potential reductions in fuel tax receipts;

''(13) the development of tests and methods to determine the benefits and costs to communities of major transportation investments and projects;

''(14) the conduct of extreme weather research, including research to—

''(A) reduce contraction and expansion damage;

''(B) reduce or repair road damage caused by freezing and thawing;

''(C) improve deicing or snow removal techniques;

''(D) develop better methods to reduce the risk of thermal collapse, including collapse from changes in underlying permafrost;

''(E) improve concrete and asphalt installation in extreme weather conditions; and

''(F) make other improvements to protect highway infrastructure or enhance highway safety or performance;

''(15) the improvement of surface transportation planning;

''(16) environmental research;

''(17) transportation system management and operations; and

''(18) any other surface transportation research topics that the Secretary determines, in accordance with the strategic planning process under section 508, to be critical.

''(d) ADVANCED, HIGH-RISK RESEARCH.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and carry out, in accordance with the surface transportation research and technology development strategic plan developed under section 508(c) and research priority areas described in subsection (c), an advanced research program that addresses longer-term, higher-risk research with potentially dramatic breakthroughs for improving the durability, efficiency, environmental impact, productivity, and safety (including bicycle and pedestrian safety) aspects of highway and intermodal transportation systems.

''(2) PARTNERSHIPS.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall seek to develop partnerships with the public and private sectors.

''(3) REPORT.—The Secretary shall include in the strategic plan required under section 508(c) a description of each of the projects, and the amount of funds expended for each project, carried out under this subsection during the fiscal year.

''(e) LONG-TERM PAVEMENT PERFORMANCE PROGRAM.—

''(1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall continue, through September 30, 2009, the long-term pavement performance program tests, monitoring, and data analysis.

''(2) GRANTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, AND CONTRACTS.—Under the program, the Secretary shall make grants and enter into cooperative agreements and contracts to—

''(A) monitor, material-test, and evaluate highway test sections in existence as of the date of the grant, agreement, or contract;

''(B) analyze the data obtained in carrying out subparagraph (A); and

''(C) prepare products to fulfill program objectives and meet future pavement technology needs.

''(3) CONCLUSION OF PROGRAM.—

''(A) SUMMARY REPORT.—The Secretary shall include in the strategic plan required under section 508(c) a report on the initial conclusions of the long-term pavement performance program that includes—

''(i) an analysis of any research objectives that remain to be achieved under the program;

''(ii) an analysis of other associated longer-term expenditures under the program that are in the public interest;

''(iii) a detailed plan regarding the storage, maintenance, and user support of the database, information management system, and materials reference library of the program;

''(iv) a schedule for continued implementation of the necessary data collection and analysis and project plan under the program; and

''(v) an estimate of the costs of carrying out each of the activities described in clauses (i) through (iv) for each fiscal year during which the program is carried out.

''(B) DEADLINE; USEFULNESS OF ADVANCES.—The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

''(i) ensure that the long-term pavement performance program is concluded not later than September 30, 2009; and

''(ii) make such allowances as are necessary to ensure the usefulness of the technological advances resulting from the program.

''(f) SEISMIC RESEARCH.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) in consultation and cooperation with Federal agencies participating in the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program established by section 5 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7704), coordinate the conduct of seismic research;

''(2) take such actions as are necessary to ensure that the coordination of the research is consistent with—

''(A) planning and coordination activities of the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency under section 5(b)(1) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 7704(b)(1)); and

''(B) the plan developed by the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency under section 8(b) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 7705b(b)); and

''(3) in cooperation with the Center for Civil Engineering Research at the University of Nevada, Reno, carry out a seismic research program—

''(A) to study the vulnerability of the Federal-aid highway system and other surface transportation systems to seismic activity;

''(B) to develop and implement cost-effective methods to reduce the vulnerability; and

''(C) to conduct seismic research and upgrade earthquake simulation facilities as necessary to carry out the program.

''(g) INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT NEEDS REPORT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than July 31, 2004, and July 31 of every second year thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report that describes—

''(A) estimates of the future highway and bridge needs of the United States; and

''(B) the backlog of current highway and bridge needs.

''(2) COMPARISON WITH PRIOR REPORTS.—Each report under paragraph (1) shall provide the means, including all necessary information, to relate and compare the conditions and service measures used in the previous biennial reports.

''(h) SECURITY RELATED RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, with key stakeholder input (including State transportation departments) shall develop a 5-year strategic plan for research and technology transfer and deployment activities pertaining to the security aspects of highway infrastructure and operations.

''(2) COMPONENTS OF PLAN.—The plan shall include—

''(A) an identification of which agencies are responsible for the conduct of various research and technology transfer activities;

''(B) a description of the manner in which those activities will be coordinated; and

''(C) a description of the process to be used to ensure that the advances derived from relevant activities supported by the Federal Highway Administration are consistent with the operational guidelines, policies, recommendations, and regulations of the Department of Homeland Security; and

''(D) a systematic evaluation of the research that should be conducted to address, at a minimum—

''(i) vulnerabilities of, and measures that may be taken to improve, emergency response capabilities and evacuations;

''(ii) recommended upgrades of traffic management during crises;

''(iii) integrated, interoperable emergency communications among the public, the military, law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services, and transportation agencies;

''(iv) protection of critical, security-related infrastructure; and

''(v) structural reinforcement of key facilities.

''(3) SUBMISSION.—On completion of the plan under this subsection, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives—

''(A) a copy of the plan developed under paragraph (1); and

''(B) a copy of a memorandum of understanding specifying coordination strategies and assignment of responsibilities covered by the plan that is signed by the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security.

''(i) HIGH-PERFORMANCE CONCRETE BRIDGE RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM.—In accordance with the objectives described in subsection (c)(1) and the requirements under sections 503(b)(4) and 504(b), the Secretary shall carry out a program to demonstrate the application of high-performance concrete in the construction and rehabilitation of bridges.

''(j) BIOBASED TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH.—There shall be available from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) $18,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 equally divided and available to carry out biobased research of national importance at the National Biodiesel Board and at research centers identified in section 9011 of Public Law 107–171.

''§ 503. Technology application program

''(a) TECHNOLOGY APPLICATION INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, in consultation with interested stakeholders, shall develop and administer a national technology and innovation application initiatives and partnerships program.

''(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the program shall be to significantly accelerate the adoption of technology and innovation by the surface transportation community.

''(3) APPLICATION GOALS.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004, the Secretary, in consultation with the Surface Transportation Research Technology Advisory Committee, State transportation departments, and other interested stakeholders, shall establish, as part of the surface transportation research and technology development strategic plan under section 508(c), goals to carry out paragraph (1).

''(B) DESIGN.—Each of the goals and the program developed to achieve the goals shall be designed to provide tangible benefits, with respect to transportation systems, in the areas of efficiency, safety, reliability, service life, environmental protection, and sustainability.

''(C) STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVEMENT.—For each goal, the Secretary, in cooperation with representatives of the transportation community, such as States, local governments, the private sector, and academia, shall use domestic and international technology to develop strategies and initiatives to achieve the goal, including technical assistance in deploying technology and mechanisms for sharing information among program participants.

''(4) INTEGRATION WITH OTHER PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall integrate activities carried out under this subsection with the efforts of the Secretary to—

''(A) disseminate the results of research sponsored by the Secretary; and

''(B) facilitate technology transfer.

''(5) LEVERAGING OF FEDERAL RESOURCES.—In selecting projects to be carried out under this subsection, the Secretary shall give preference to projects that leverage Federal funds with other significant public or private resources.

''(6) GRANTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, AND CONTRACTS.—Under the program, the Secretary may make grants and enter into cooperative agreements and contracts to foster alliances and support efforts to stimulate advances in transportation technology.

''(7) REPORTS.—The results and progress of activities carried out under this section shall be published as part of the annual transportation research report prepared by the Secretary under section 508(c)(5).

''(8) ALLOCATION.—To the extent appropriate to achieve the goals established under paragraph (3), the Secretary may further allocate funds made available to carry out this section to States for use by those States.

''(b) INNOVATIVE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE RESEARCH AND CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a program for the application of innovative material, design, and construction technologies in the construction, preservation, and rehabilitation of elements of surface transportation infrastructure.

''(2) GOALS.—The goals of the program shall include—

''(A) the development of new, cost-effective, and innovative materials;

''(B) the reduction of maintenance costs and life-cycle costs of elements of infrastructure, including the costs of new construction, replacement, and rehabilitation;

''(C) the development of construction techniques to increase safety and reduce construction time and traffic congestion;

''(D) the development of engineering design criteria for innovative products and materials for use in surface transportation infrastructure;

''(E) the development of highway bridges and structures that will withstand natural disasters and disasters caused by human activity; and

''(F) the development of new, nondestructive technologies and techniques for the evaluation of elements of transportation infrastructure.

''(3) GRANTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, AND CONTRACTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Under the program, the Secretary shall make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements and contracts with—

''(i) States, other Federal agencies, universities and colleges, private sector entities, and nonprofit organizations, to pay the Federal share of the cost of research, development, and technology transfer concerning innovative materials and methods; and

''(ii) States, to pay the Federal share of the cost of repair, rehabilitation, replacement, and new construction of elements of surface transportation infrastructure that demonstrate the application of innovative materials and methods.

''(B) APPLICATIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—To receive a grant under this subsection, an entity described in subparagraph (A) shall submit to the Secretary an application in such form and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

''(ii) APPROVAL.—The Secretary shall select and approve an application based on whether the proposed project that is the subject of the application would meet the goals described in paragraph (2).

''(4) TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION TRANSFER.—The Secretary shall take such action as is necessary to—

''(A) ensure that the information and technology resulting from research conducted under paragraph (3) is made available to State and local transportation departments and other interested parties, as specified by the Secretary; and

''(B) encourage the use of the information and technology.

''(5) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project under this section shall be determined by the Secretary.

''§ 504. Training and education

''(a) NATIONAL HIGHWAY INSTITUTE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

''(A) operate, in the Federal Highway Administration, a National Highway Institute (referred to in this subsection as the 'Institute'); and

''(B) administer, through the Institute, the authority vested in the Secretary by this title or by any other law for the development and conduct of education and training programs relating to highways.

''(2) DUTIES OF THE INSTITUTE.—In cooperation with State transportation departments, industries in the United States, and national or international entities, the Institute shall develop and administer education and training programs of instruction for—

''(A) Federal Highway Administration, State, and local transportation agency employees;

''(B) regional, State, and metropolitan planning organizations;

''(C) State and local police, public safety, and motor vehicle employees; and

''(D) United States citizens and foreign nationals engaged or to be engaged in surface transportation work of interest to the United States.

''(3) COURSES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Institute shall—

''(i) develop or update existing courses in asset management, including courses that include such components as—

''(I) the determination of life-cycle costs;

''(II) the valuation of assets;

''(III) benefit-to-cost ratio calculations; and

''(IV) objective decisionmaking processes for project selection; and

''(ii) continually develop courses relating to the application of emerging technologies for—

''(I) transportation infrastructure applications and asset management;

''(II) intelligent transportation systems;

''(III) operations (including security operations);

''(IV) the collection and archiving of data;

''(V) expediting the planning and development of transportation projects; and

''(VI) the intermodal movement of individuals and freight.

''(B) ADDITIONAL COURSES.—In addition to the courses developed under subparagraph (A), the Institute, in consultation with State transportation departments, metropolitan planning organizations, and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, may develop courses relating to technology, methods, techniques, engineering, construction, safety, maintenance, environmental mitigation and compliance, regulations, management, inspection, and finance.

''(C) REVISION OF COURSES OFFERED.—The Institute shall periodically—

''(i) review the course inventory of the Institute; and

''(ii) revise or cease to offer courses based on course content, applicability, and need.

''(4) ELIGIBILITY; FEDERAL SHARE.—The funds apportioned to a State under section 104(b)(3) for the surface transportation program shall be available for expenditure by the State transportation department for the payment of not to exceed 80 percent of the cost of tuition and direct educational expenses (excluding salaries) in connection with the education and training of employees of State and local transportation agencies in accordance with this subsection.

''(5) FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), education and training of employees of Federal, State, and local transportation (including highway) agencies authorized under this subsection may be provided—

''(i) by the Secretary, at no cost to the States and local governments, if the Secretary determines that provision at no cost is in the public interest; or

''(ii) by the State, through grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts with public and private agencies, institutions, individuals, and the Institute.

''(B) PAYMENT OF FULL COST BY PRIVATE PERSONS.—Private agencies, international or foreign entities, and individuals shall pay the full cost of any education and training (including the cost of course development) received by the agencies, entities, and individuals, unless the Secretary determines that payment of a lesser amount of the cost is of critical importance to the public interest.

''(6) TRAINING FELLOWSHIPS; COOPERATION.—The Institute may—

''(A) engage in training activities authorized under this subsection, including the granting of training fellowships; and

''(B) exercise the authority of the Institute independently or in cooperation with any—

''(i) other Federal or State agency;

''(ii) association, authority, institution, or organization;

''(iii) for-profit or nonprofit corporation;

''(iv) national or international entity;

''(v) foreign country; or

''(vi) person.

''(7) COLLECTION OF FEES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with this subsection, the Institute may assess and collect fees to defray the costs of the Institute in developing or administering education and training programs under this subsection.

''(B) PERSONS SUBJECT TO FEES.—Fees may be assessed and collected under this subsection only with respect to—

''(i) persons and entities for whom education or training programs are developed or administered under this subsection; and

''(ii) persons and entities to whom education or training is provided under this subsection.

''(C) AMOUNT OF FEES.—The fees assessed and collected under this subsection shall be established in a manner that ensures that the liability of any person or entity for a fee is reasonably based on the proportion of the costs referred to in subparagraph (A) that relate to the person or entity.

''(D) USE.—All fees collected under this subsection shall be used, without further appropriation, to defray costs associated with the development or administration of education and training programs authorized under this subsection.

''(8) RELATION TO FEES.—The funds made available to carry out this subsection may be combined with or held separate from the fees collected under—

''(A) paragraph (7);

''(B) memoranda of understanding;

''(C) regional compacts; and

''(D) other similar agreements.

''(b) LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

''(1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall carry out a local technical assistance program that will provide access to surface transportation technology to—

''(A) highway and transportation agencies in urbanized areas;

''(B) highway and transportation agencies in rural areas;

''(C) contractors that perform work for the agencies; and

''(D) infrastructure security.

''(2) GRANTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, AND CONTRACTS.—The Secretary may make grants and enter into cooperative agreements and contracts to provide education and training, technical assistance, and related support services to—

''(A) assist rural, local transportation agencies and tribal governments, and the consultants and construction personnel working for the agencies and governments, to—

''(i) develop and expand expertise in road and transportation areas (including pavement, bridge, concrete structures, intermodal connections, safety management systems, intelligent transportation systems, incident response, operations, and traffic safety countermeasures);

''(ii) improve roads and bridges;

''(iii) enhance—

''(I) programs for the movement of passengers and freight; and

''(II) intergovernmental transportation planning and project selection; and

''(iv) deal effectively with special transportation-related problems by preparing and providing training packages, manuals, guidelines, and technical resource materials;

''(B) develop technical assistance for tourism and recreational travel;

''(C) identify, package, and deliver transportation technology and traffic safety information to local jurisdictions to assist urban transportation agencies in developing and expanding their ability to deal effectively with transportation-related problems (particularly the promotion of regional cooperation);

''(D) operate, in cooperation with State transportation departments and universities—

''(i) local technical assistance program centers designated to provide transportation technology transfer services to rural areas and to urbanized areas; and

''(ii) local technical assistance program centers designated to provide transportation technical assistance to tribal governments; and

''(E) allow local transportation agencies and tribal governments, in cooperation with the private sector, to enhance new technology implementation.

''(c) RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS.—

''(1) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary, acting independently or in cooperation with other Federal agencies and instrumentalities, may make grants for research fellowships for any purpose for which research is authorized by this chapter.

''(2) DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER TRANSPORTATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish and implement a transportation research fellowship program, to be known as the 'Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program', for the purpose of attracting qualified students to the field of transportation.

''§ 505. State planning and research

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Two percent of the sums apportioned to a State for fiscal year 2004 and each fiscal year thereafter under sections 104 (other than subsections (f) and (h)) and 144 shall be available for expenditure by the State, in consultation with the Secretary, only for—

''(1) the conduct of engineering and economic surveys and investigations;

''(2) the planning of—

''(A) future highway programs and local public transportation systems; and

''(B) the financing of those programs and systems, including metropolitan and statewide planning under sections 134 and 135;

''(3) the development and implementation of management systems under section 303;

''(4) the conduct of studies on—

''(A) the economy, safety, and convenience of surface transportation systems; and

''(B) the desirable regulation and equitable taxation of those systems;

''(5) research, development, and technology transfer activities necessary in connection with the planning, design, construction, management, and maintenance of highway, public transportation, and intermodal transportation systems;

''(6) the conduct of studies, research, and training relating to the engineering standards and construction materials for surface transportation systems described in paragraph (5) (including the evaluation and accreditation of inspection and testing and the regulation of and charging for the use of the standards and materials); and

''(7) the conduct of activities relating to the planning of real-time monitoring elements.

''(b) MINIMUM EXPENDITURES ON RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), not less than 25 percent of the funds subject to subsection (a) that are apportioned to a State for a fiscal year shall be expended by the State for research, development, and technology transfer activities that—

''(A) are described in subsection (a); and

''(B) relate to highway, public transportation, and intermodal transportation systems.

''(2) WAIVERS.—The Secretary may waive the application of paragraph (1) with respect to a State for a fiscal year if—

''(A) the State certifies to the Secretary for the fiscal year that total expenditures by the State for transportation planning under sections 134 and 135 will exceed 75 percent of the funds described in paragraph (1); and

''(B) the Secretary accepts the certification of the State.

''(3) NONAPPLICABILITY OF ASSESSMENT.—Funds expended under paragraph (1) shall not be considered to be part of the extramural budget of the agency for the purpose of section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

''(c) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project carried out using funds subject to subsection (a) shall be the share applicable under section 120(b), as adjusted under subsection (d) of that section.

''(d) ADMINISTRATION OF SUMS.—Funds subject to subsection (a) shall be—

''(1) combined and administered by the Secretary as a single fund; and

''(2) available for obligation for the period described in section 118(b)(2).

''(e) ELIGIBLE USE OF STATE PLANNING AND RESEARCH FUNDS.—A State, in coordination with the Secretary, may obligate funds made available to carry out this section for any purpose authorized under section 506(a).

''§ 506. International highway transportation outreach program

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary may establish an international highway transportation outreach program—

''(1) to inform the United States highway community of technological innovations in foreign countries that could significantly improve highway transportation in the United States;

''(2) to promote United States highway transportation expertise, goods, and services in foreign countries; and

''(3) to increase transfers of United States highway transportation technology to foreign countries.

''(b) ACTIVITIES.—Activities carried out under the program may include—

''(1) the development, monitoring, assessment, and dissemination in the United States of information about highway transportation innovations in foreign countries that could significantly improve highway transportation in the United States;

''(2) research, development, demonstration, training, and other forms of technology transfer and exchange;

''(3) the provision to foreign countries, through participation in trade shows, seminars, expositions, and other similar activities, of information relating to the technical quality of United States highway transportation goods and services;

''(4) the offering of technical services of the Federal Highway Administration that cannot be readily obtained from private sector firms in the United States for incorporation into the proposals of those firms undertaking highway transportation projects outside the United States, if the costs of the technical services will be recovered under the terms of the project;

''(5) the conduct of studies to assess the need for, or feasibility of, highway transportation improvements in foreign countries; and

''(6) the gathering and dissemination of information on foreign transportation markets and industries.

''(c) COOPERATION.—The Secretary may carry out this section in cooperation with any appropriate—

''(1) Federal, State, or local agency;

''(2) authority, association, institution, or organization;

''(3) for-profit or nonprofit corporation;

''(4) national or international entity;

''(5) foreign country; or

''(6) person.

''(d) FUNDS.—

''(1) CONTRIBUTIONS.—Funds available to carry out this section shall include funds deposited by any cooperating organization or person

into a special account of the Treasury established for this purpose.

''(2) ELIGIBLE USES OF FUNDS.—The funds deposited into the account, and other funds available to carry out this section, shall be available to cover the cost of any activity eligible under this section, including the cost of—

''(A) promotional materials;

''(B) travel;

''(C) reception and representation expenses; and

''(D) salaries and benefits.

''(3) REIMBURSEMENTS FOR SALARIES AND BENEFITS.—Reimbursements for salaries and benefits of Department of Transportation employees providing services under this section shall be credited to the account.

''(e) REPORT—For each fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report that describes the destinations and individual trip costs of international travel conducted in carrying out activities described in this section.

''§ 507. Surface transportation-environmental cooperative research program

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a surface transportation-environmental cooperative research program.

''(b) CONTENTS.—The program carried out under this section may include research—

''(1) to develop more accurate models for evaluating transportation control measures and transportation system designs that are appropriate for use by State and local governments (including metropolitan planning organizations) in designing implementation plans to meet Federal, State, and local environmental requirements;

''(2) to improve understanding of the factors that contribute to the demand for transportation;

''(3) to develop indicators of economic, social, and environmental performance of transportation systems to facilitate analysis of potential alternatives;

''(4) to meet additional priorities as determined by the Secretary in the strategic planning process under section 508; and

''(5) to refine, through the conduct of workshops, symposia, and panels, and in consultation with stakeholders (including the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and other appropriate Federal and State agencies and associations) the scope and research emphases of the program.

''(c) PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) administer the program established under this section; and

''(2) ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that—

''(A) the best projects and researchers are selected to conduct research in the priority areas described in subsection (b)—

''(i) on the basis of merit of each submitted proposal; and

''(ii) through the use of open solicitations and selection by a panel of appropriate experts;

''(B) a qualified, permanent core staff with the ability and expertise to manage a large multiyear budget is used;

''(C) the stakeholders are involved in the governance of the program, at the executive, overall program, and technical levels, through the use of expert panels and committees; and

''(D) there is no duplication of research effort between the program established under this section and the new strategic highway research program established under section 509.

''(d) NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—The Secretary may make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, the National Academy of Sciences to carry out such activities relating to the research, technology, and technology transfer activities described in subsections (b) and (c) as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''§ 508. Surface transportation research technology deployment and strategic planning

''(a) PLANNING.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall—

''(A) establish, in accordance with section 306 of title 5, a strategic planning process that—

''(i) enhances effective implementation of this section through the establishment in accordance with paragraph (2) of the Surface Transportation Research Technology Advisory Committee; and

''(ii) focuses on surface transportation research funded through paragraphs (1), (2), (4), and (5) of section 2001(a) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004, taking into consideration national surface transportation system needs and intermodality requirements;

''(B) coordinate Federal surface transportation research, technology development, and deployment activities;

''(C) at such intervals as are appropriate and practicable, measure the results of those activities and the ways in which the activities affect the performance of the surface transportation systems of the United States; and

''(D) ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that planning and reporting activities carried out under this section are coordinated with all other surface transportation planning and reporting requirements.

''(2) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004, the Secretary shall establish a committee to be known as the 'Surface Transportation Research Technology Advisory Committee' (referred to in this section as the 'Committee').

''(B) MEMBERSHIP.—The Committee shall be composed of 12 members appointed by the Secretary—

''(i) each of which shall have expertise in a particular area relating to Federal surface transportation programs, including—

''(I) safety;

''(II) operations;

''(III) infrastructure (including pavements and structures);

''(IV) planning and environment;

''(V) policy; and

''(VI) asset management; and

''(ii) of which—

''(I) 3 members shall be individuals representing the Federal Government;

''(II) 3 members—

''(aa) shall be exceptionally qualified to serve on the Committee, as determined by the Secretary, based on education, training, and experience; and

''(bb) shall not be officers or employees of the United States;

''(III) 3 members—

''(aa) shall represent the transportation industry (including the pavement industry); and

''(bb) shall not be officers or employees of the United States; and

''(IV) 3 members shall represent State transportation departments from 3 different geographical regions of the United States.

''(C) MEETINGS.—The advisory subcommittees shall meet on a regular basis, but not less than twice each year.

''(D) DUTIES.—The Committee shall provide to the Secretary, on a continuous basis, advice and guidance relating to—

''(i) the determination of surface transportation research priorities;

''(ii) the improvement of the research planning and implementation process;

''(iii) the design and selection of research projects;

''(iv) the review of research results;

''(v) the planning and implementation of technology transfer activities and

''(vi) the formulation of the surface transportation research and technology deployment and deployment strategic plan required under subsection (c).

''(E) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out this paragraph $200,000 for each fiscal year.

''(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) provide for the integrated planning, coordination, and consultation among the operating administrations of the Department of Transportation, all other Federal agencies with responsibility for surface transportation research and technology development, State and local governments, institutions of higher education, industry, and other private and public sector organizations engaged in surface transportation-related research and development activities; and

''(2) ensure that the surface transportation research and technology development programs of the Department do not duplicate other Federal, State, or private sector research and development programs.

''(c) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT STRATEGIC PLAN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—After receiving, and based on, extensive consultation and input from stakeholders representing the transportation community and the Surface Transportation Research Advisory Committee, the Secretary shall, not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004, complete, and shall periodically update thereafter, a strategic plan for each of the core surface transportation research areas, including—

''(A) safety;

''(B) operations;

''(C) infrastructure (including pavements and structures);

''(D) planning and environment;

''(E) policy; and

''(F) asset management.

''(2) COMPONENTS.—The strategic plan shall specify—

''(A) surface transportation research objectives and priorities;

''(B) specific surface transportation research projects to be conducted;

''(C) recommended technology transfer activities to promote the deployment of advances resulting from the surface transportation research conducted; and

''(D) short- and long-term technology development and deployment activities.

''(3) REVIEW AND SUBMISSION OF FINDINGS.—The Secretary shall enter into a contract with the Transportation Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences, on behalf of the Research and Technology Coordinating Committee of the National Research Council, under which—

''(A) the Transportation Research Board shall—

''(i) review the research and technology planning and implementation process used by Federal Highway Administration; and

''(ii) evaluate each of the strategic plans prepared under this subsection—

''(I) to ensure that sufficient stakeholder input is being solicited and considered throughout the preparation process; and

''(II) to offer recommendations relevant to research priorities, project selection, and deployment strategies; and

''(B) the Secretary shall ensure that the Research and Technology Coordinating Committee, in a timely manner, informs the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives of the findings of the review and evaluation under subparagraph (A).

''(4) RESPONSES OF SECRETARY.—Not later than 60 days after the date of completion of the strategic plan under this subsection, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives written responses to each of the recommendations of the Research and Technology Coordinating Committee under paragraph (3)(A)(ii)(II).

''(d) CONSISTENCY WITH GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS ACT OF 1993.—The plans and reports developed under this section shall be consistent with and incorporated as part of the plans developed under section 306 of title 5 and sections 1115 and 1116 of title 31.

''§ 509. New strategic highway research program

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The National Research Council shall establish and carry out, through fiscal year 2009, a new strategic highway research program.

''(b) BASIS; PRIORITIES.—With respect to the program established under subsection (a)—

''(1) the program shall be based on—

''(A) National Research Council Special Report No. 260, entitled 'Strategic Highway Research'; and

''(B) the results of the detailed planning work subsequently carried out to scope the research areas through National Cooperative Research Program Project 20–58.

''(2) the scope and research priorities of the program shall—

''(A) be refined through stakeholder input in the form of workshops, symposia, and panels; and

''(B) include an examination of—

''(i) the roles of highway infrastructure, drivers, and vehicles in fatalities on public roads;

''(ii) high-risk areas and activities associated with the greatest numbers of highway fatalities;

''(iii) the roles of various levels of government agencies and non-governmental organizations in reducing highway fatalities (including recommendations for methods of strengthening highway safety partnerships);

''(iv) measures that may save the greatest number of lives in the short- and long-term;

''(v) renewal of aging infrastructure with minimum impact on users of facilities;

''(vi) driving behavior and likely crash causal factors to support improved countermeasures;

''(vii) reduction in congestion due to nonrecurring congestion;

''(viii) planning and designing of new road capacity to meet mobility, economic, environmental, and community needs;

''(3) the program shall consider, at a minimum, the results of studies relating to the implementation of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan prepared by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; and

''(4) the research results of the program, expressed in terms of technologies, methodologies, and other appropriate categorizations, shall be disseminated to practicing engineers as soon as practicable for their use.

''(c) PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.—In carrying out the program under this section, the National Research Council shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that—

''(1) the best projects and researchers are selected to conduct research for the program and priorities described in subsection (b)—

''(A) on the basis of the merit of each submitted proposal; and

''(B) through the use of open solicitations and selection by a panel of appropriate experts;

''(2) the National Research Council acquires a qualified, permanent core staff with the ability and expertise to manage a large research program and multiyear budget;

''(3) the stakeholders are involved in the governance of the program, at the executive, overall program, and technical levels, through the use of expert panels and committees; and

''(4) there is no duplication of research effort between the program established under this section and the surface transportation-environment cooperative research program established under section 507 or any other research effort of the Department.

''(d) NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—The Secretary may make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, the National Academy of Sciences to carry out such activities relating to research, technology, and technology transfer described in subsections (b) and (c) as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''(e) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RESULTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2007, the Secretary shall enter into a contract with the Transportation Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences under which the Transportation Research Board shall complete a report on the strategies and administrative structure to be used for implementation of the results of new strategic highway research program.

''(2) COMPONENTS.—The report under paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to the new strategic highway research program—

''(A) an identification of the most promising results of research under the program (including the persons most likely to use the results);

''(B) a discussion of potential incentives for, impediments to, and methods of, implementing those results;

''(C) an estimate of costs that would be incurred in expediting implementation of those results; and

''(D) recommendations for the way in which implementation of the results of the program under this section should be conducted, coordinated, and supported in future years, including a discussion of the administrative structure and organization best suited to carry out those responsibilities.

''(3) CONSULTATION.—In developing the report, the Transportation Research Board shall consult with a wide variety of stakeholders, including—

''(A) the American Association of State highway Officials;

''(B) the Federal Highway Administration; and

''(C) the Surface Transportation Research Technology Advisory Committee.

''(4) SUBMISSION.—Not later than February 1, 2009, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives the report under this subsection.

''§ 510. University transportation centers

''(a) CENTERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—During fiscal year 2004, the Secretary shall provide grants to 40 nonprofit institutions of higher learning (or consortia of institutions of higher learning) to establish centers to address transportation design, management, research, development, and technology matters, especially the education and training of greater numbers of individuals to enter into the professional field of transportation.

''(2) DISTRIBUTION OF CENTERS.—Not more than 1 university transportation center (or lead university in a consortia of institutions of higher learning), other than a center or university selected through a competitive process, may be located in any State.

''(3) IDENTIFICATION OF CENTERS.—The university transportation centers established under this section shall—

''(A) comply with applicable requirements under subsection (c); and

''(B) be located at the institutions of higher learning specified in paragraph (4).

''(4) IDENTIFICATION OF GROUPS.—For the purpose of making grants under this subsection, the following grants are identified:

''(A) GROUP A.—Group A shall consist of the 10 regional centers selected under subsection (b).

''(B) GROUP B.—Group B shall consist of the following:

''(i) [_____].
''(ii) [_____].
''(iii) [_____].
''(iv) [_____].
''(v) [_____].
''(vi) [_____].
''(vii) [_____].
''(viii) [_____]
''(ix) [_____].
''(x) [_____].
''(xi) [_____].

''(C) GROUP C.—Group C shall consist of the following:

''(i) [_____].
''(ii) [_____].
''(iii) [_____].
''(iv) [_____].
''(v) [_____].
''(vi) [_____].
''(vii) [_____].
''(viii) [_____].
''(ix) [_____].
''(x) [_____].
''(xi) [_____].

''(D) GROUP D.—Group D shall consist of the following:

''(i) [_____].
''(ii) [_____].
''(iii) [_____].
''(iv) [_____].
''(v) [_____].
''(vi) [_____].
''(vii) [_____].
''(viii) [_____].

''(b) REGIONAL CENTERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30, 2004, the Secretary shall provide to nonprofit institutions of higher learning (or consortia of institutions of higher learning) grants to be used during the period of fiscal years 2005 through 2009 to establish and operate 1 university transportation center in each of the 10 Federal regions that comprise the Standard Federal Regional Boundary System.

''(2) SELECTION OF REGIONAL CENTERS.—

''(A) PROPOSALS.—In order to be eligible to receive a grant under this subsection, an institution described in paragraph (1) shall submit to the Secretary a proposal, in response to any request for proposals that shall be made by the Secretary, that is in such form and contains such information as the Secretary shall prescribe.

''(B) REQUEST SCHEDULE.—The Secretary shall request proposals once for the period of fiscal years 2004 through 2006 and once for the period of fiscal years 2007 through 2009.

''(C) ELIGIBILITY.—Any institution of higher learning (or consortium of institutions of higher learning) that meets the criteria described in subsection (c) (including any institution identified in subsection (a)(4)) may apply for a grant under this subsection.

''(D) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall select each recipient of a grant under this subsection through a competitive process on the basis of—

''(i) the location of the center within the Federal region to be served;

''(ii) the demonstrated research capabilities and extension resources available to the recipient to carry out this section;

''(iii) the capability of the recipient to provide leadership in making national and regional contributions to the solution of immediate and long-range transportation problems;

''(iv) the demonstrated ability of the recipient to disseminate results of transportation research and education programs through a statewide or regionwide continuing education program; and

''(v) the strategic plan that the recipient proposes to carry out using funds from the grant.

''(E) SELECTION PROCESS.—In selecting the recipients of grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall consult with, and consider the advice of—

''(i) the Research and Special Programs Administration;

''(ii) the Federal Highway Administration; and

''(iii) the Federal Transit Administration.

''(c) CENTER REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a university transportation center established under subsection (a) or (b), the institution or consortium that receives a grant to establish the center—

''(A) shall annually contribute at least $250,000 to the operation and maintenance of the center, except that payment by the institution or consortium of the salary required for transportation-related faculty and staff for a period greater than 90 days may not be counted against that contribution;

''(B) shall have established, as of the date of receipt of the grant, undergraduate or graduate programs in—

''(i) civil engineering;

''(ii) transportation engineering;

''(iii) transportation systems management and operations; or

''(iv) any other field significantly related to surface transportation systems, as determined by the Secretary; and

''(C) not later than 120 days after the date on which the institution or consortium receives notice of selection as a site for the establishment of a university transportation center under this section, shall submit to the Secretary a 6-year program plan for the university transportation center that includes, with respect to the center—

''(i) a description of the purposes of programs to be conducted by the center;

''(ii) a description of the undergraduate and graduate transportation education efforts to be carried out by the center;

''(iii) a description of the nature and scope of research to be conducted by the center;

''(iv) a list of personnel, including the roles and responsibilities of those personnel within the center; and

''(v) a detailed budget, including the amount of contributions by the institution or consortium to the center; and

''(D) shall establish an advisory committee that—

''(i) is composed of a representative from each of the State transportation department of the State in which the institution or consortium is located, the Department of Transportation, and the institution or consortia, as appointed by those respective entities;

''(ii) in accordance with paragraph (2), shall review and approve or disapprove the plan of the institution or consortium under subparagraph (C); and

''(iii) shall, to the maximum extent practicable, ensure that the proposed research to be carried out by the university transportation center will contribute to the national highway research and technology agenda, as periodically updated by the Secretary, in consultation with stakeholders representing the highway community.

''(2) PEER REVIEW.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require peer review for each report on research carried out using funds made available for this section.

''(B) PURPOSES OF PEER REVIEW.—Peer review of a report under this section shall be carried out to evaluate—

''(i) the relevance of the research described in the report with respect to the strategic plan under, and the goals of, this section;

''(ii) the research covered by the report, and to recommend modifications to individual project plans;

''(iii) the results of the research before publication of those results; and

''(iv) the overall outcomes of the research.

''(C) INTERNET AVAILABILITY.—Each report under this section that is received by the Secretary shall be published—

''(i) by the Secretary, on the Internet website of the Department of Transportation; and

''(ii) by the University Transportation Center.

''(3) APPROVAL OF PLANS—A plan of an institution or consortium described in paragraph (1)(C) shall not be submitted to the Secretary until such time as the advisory committee established under paragraph (1)(D) reviews and approves the plan.

''(4) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—If a recipient of a grant under this subsection fails to submit a program plan acceptable to the Secretary and in accordance with paragraph (1)(C)—

''(A) the recipient shall forfeit the grant and the selection of the recipient as a site for the establishment of a university transportation center; and

''(B) the Secretary shall select a replacement recipient for the forfeited grant.

''(5) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection does not apply to any research funds received in accordance with a competitive contract offered and entered into by the Federal Highway Administration.

''(d) OBJECTIVES.—Each university transportation center established under subsection (a) or (b) shall carry out—

''(1) undergraduate or graduate education programs that include—

''(A) multidisciplinary coursework; and

''(B) opportunities for students to participate in research;

''(2) basic and applied research, the results and products of which shall be judged by peers or other experts in the field so as to advance the body of knowledge in transportation; and

''(3) an ongoing program of technology transfer that makes research results available to potential users in such form as will enable the results to be implemented, used, or otherwise applied.

''(e) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an applicant shall—

''(1) enter into an agreement with the Secretary to ensure that the applicant will maintain total expenditures from all other sources to establish and operate a university transportation center and related educational and research activities at a level that is at least equal to the average level of those expenditures during the 2 fiscal years before the date on which the grant is provided;

''(2) provide the annual institutional contribution required under subsection (c)(1); and

''(3) submit to the Secretary, in a timely manner, for use by the Secretary in the preparation of the annual research report under section 508(c)(5) of title 23, an annual report on the projects and activities of the university transportation center for which funds are made available under section 2001 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 that contains, at a minimum, for the fiscal year covered by the report, a description of—

''(A) the goals of the center;

''(B) the educational activities carried out by the center (including a detailed summary of the budget for those educational activities);

''(C) teaching activities of faculty at the center;

''(D) each research project carried out by the center, including—

''(i) the identity and location of each investigator working on a research project;

''(ii) the overall funding amount for each research project (including the amounts expended for the project as of the date of the report);

''(iii) the current schedule for each research project; and

''(iv) the results of each research project through the date of submission of the report, with particular emphasis on results for the fiscal year covered by the report; and

''(E) overall technology transfer and implementation efforts of the center.

''(f) PROGRAM COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) coordinate the research, education, training, and technology transfer activities carried out by recipients of grants under this section; and

''(2) establish and operate a clearinghouse for, and disseminate, the results of those activities.

''(g) FUNDING.—

''(1) NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—The Secretary shall make the following grants under this subsection:

''(A) GROUP A.—For each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, the Secretary shall make a grant in the amount of $20,000,000 to each of the institutions in group A (as described in subsection (a)(4)(A)).

''(B) GROUP B.—The Secretary shall make a grant to each of the institutions in group B (as described in subsection (a)(4)(B)) in the amount of—

''(i) $4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 and 2005; and

''(ii) $6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 and 2007.

''(C) GROUP C.—For each of fiscal years 2004 through 2007, the Secretary shall make a grant in the amount of $10,000,000 to each of the institutions in group C (as described in subsection (a)(4)(C)).

''(D) GROUP D.—For each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, the Secretary shall make a grant in the amount of $25,000,000 to each of the institutions in group D (as described in subsection (a)(4)(D)).

''(E) LIMITED GRANTS FOR GROUPS B AND C.—For each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009, of the institutions classified in groups B and C (as described in subsection (a)(4)(B)), the Secretary shall select and make a grant in the amount of $10,000,000 to each of not more than 15 institutions.

''(2) USE OF FUNDS—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds made available for a fiscal year to a university transportation center established under subsection (a) or (b)—

''(i) not less than $250,000 shall be used to establish and maintain new faculty positions for the teaching of undergraduate, transportation-related courses;

''(ii) not more than $500,000 for the fiscal year, or $1,000,000 in the aggregate, may be used to construct or improve transportation-related laboratory facilities; and

''(iii) not more than $300,000 for the fiscal year may be used for student internships of not more than 180 days in duration to enable students to gain experience by working on transportation projects as interns with design or construction firms.

''(B) FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATION FEE.—Not more than 10 percent of any grant made available to a university transportation center (or any institution or consortium that establishes such a center) for a fiscal year may be used to pay to the appropriate nonprofit institution of higher learning any administration and facilities fee (or any similar overhead fee) for the fiscal year.

''(3) LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds made available under this subsection shall remain available for obligation for a period of 2 years after September 30 of the fiscal year for which the funds are authorized.

''§ 511. Multistate corridor operations and management

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall encourage multistate cooperative agreements, coalitions, or other arrangements to promote regional cooperation, planning, and shared project implementation for programs and projects to improve transportation system management and operations.

''(b) INTERSTATE ROUTE I–95 CORRIDOR COALITION TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make grants under this subsection to States to continue intelligent transportation system management and operations in the Interstate Route I–

95 corridor coalition region initiated under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (Public Law 102–240).

''(2) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made available under section 2001(a)(4) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004, the Secretary shall use to carry out this subsection—

''(A) $8,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

''(B) $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;

''(C) $12,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;

''(D) $12,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;

''(E) $12,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

''(F) $12,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

''§ 512. Transportation analysis simulation system

''(a) CONTINUATION OF TRANSIMS DEVELOPMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall continue the deployment of the advanced transportation model known as the 'Transportation Analysis Simulation System' (referred to in this section as 'TRANSIMS') developed by the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

''(2) REQUIREMENTS AND CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

''(A) further improve TRANSIMS to reduce the cost and complexity of using the TRANSIMS;

''(B) continue development of TRANSIMS for applications to facilitate transportation planning, regulatory compliance, and response to natural disasters and other transportation disruptions; and

''(C) assist State transportation departments and metropolitan planning organizations, especially smaller metropolitan planning organizations, in the implementation of TRANSIMS by providing training and technical assistance.

''(b) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall use funds made available to carry out this section—

''(1) to further develop TRANSIMS for additional applications, including—

''(A) congestion analyses;

''(B) major investment studies;

''(C) economic impact analyses;

''(D) alternative analyses;

''(E) freight movement studies;

''(F) emergency evacuation studies;

''(G) port studies; and

''(H) airport access studies;

''(2) provide training and technical assistance with respect to the implementation and application of TRANSIMS to States, local governments, and metropolitan planning organizations with responsibility for travel modeling;

''(3) develop methods to simulate the national transportation infrastructure as a single, integrated system for the movement of individuals and goods;

''(4) provide funding to State transportation departments and metropolitan planning organizations for implementation of TRANSIMS.

''(c) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the funds made available to carry out this section for each fiscal year, not less than 15 percent shall be allocated for activities described in subsection (b)(3).

''(d) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made available under section 2001(a) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, the Secretary shall use $1,000,000 to carry out this section.

''(e) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds made available under this section shall be available to the Secretary through the Transportation Planning, Research, and Development Account of the Office of the Secretary.''.

(b) OTHER UNIVERSITY FUNDING.—No university (other than university transportation centers specified in section 510 of title 23, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)) shall receive funds made available under section 2001 to carry out research unless the university is selected to receive the funds—

(1) through a competitive process that incorporates merit-based peer review; and

(2) based on a proposal submitted to the Secretary by the university in response to a request for proposals issued by the Secretary.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5505 of title 49, United States Code, is repealed.

SEC. 2102. STUDY OF DATA COLLECTION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS EFFORTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term ''Administration'' means the Federal Highway Administration.

(2) BOARD.—The term ''Board'' means the Transportation Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences.

(3) BUREAU.—The term ''Bureau'' means the Bureau of Transportation Statistics.

(4) DEPARTMENT.—The term ''Department'' means the Department of Transportation.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Transportation.

(b) PRIORITY AREAS OF EFFORT.—

(1) STATISTICAL STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall direct the Bureau to assume the role of the lead agency in working with other agencies of the Department to establish, by not later the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, statistical standards for the Department.

(2) STATISTICAL ANALYSIS EFFORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Bureau shall provide to the Secretary, on an annual basis, an overview of the level of effort expended on statistical analyses by each agency within the Department.

(B) DUTY OF AGENCIES.—Each agency of the Department shall provide to the Bureau such information as the Bureau may require in carrying out subparagraph (A).

(3) NATIONAL SECURITY.—The Bureau shall—

(A) conduct a study of the ways in which transportation statistics are and may be used for the purpose of national security; and

(B) submit to the Transportation Security Administration recommendations for means by which the use of transportation statistics for the purpose of national security may be improved.

(4) MODERNIZATION.—The Bureau shall develop new protocols for adapting data collection and delivery efforts in existence as of the date of enactment of this Act to deliver information in a more timely and frequent fashion.

(c) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall provide a grant to, or enter into a cooperative agreement or contract with, the Board for the conduct of a study of the data collection and statistical analysis efforts of the Department with respect to the modes of surface transportation for which funds are made available under this Act.

(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the study shall be to provide to the Department information for use by agencies of the Department in providing to surface transportation agencies and individuals engaged in the surface transportation field higher quality, and more relevant and timely, data, statistical analyses, and products.

(3) CONTENT.—The study shall include—

(A) an examination and analysis of the efforts, analyses, and products (with respect to usefulness and policy relevance) of the Bureau as of the date of the study, as compared with the duties of the Bureau specified in subsections (c) through (f) of section 111 of title 49, United States Code;

(B) an examination and analysis of data collected by, methods of data collection of, and analyses performed by, agencies within the Department; and

(C) recommendations relating to—

(i) the future efforts of the Department in the area of surface transportation with respect to—

(I) types of data collected;

(II) methods of data collection;

(III) types of analyses performed; and

(IV) products made available by the Secretary to the transportation community and Congress;

(ii) the means by which the Department may cooperate with State transportation departments to provide technical assistance in the use of data collected by traffic operations centers; and

(iii) duplication of efforts within the Department, including ways in which—

(I) the duplication may be reduced or eliminated; and

(II) each agency of the Department may cooperate with, and complement the efforts of, the others.

(4) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study, the Board shall consult with such stakeholders, agencies, and other entities as the Board considers to be appropriate.

(5) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which a grant is provided, or a cooperative agreement or contract is entered into, for a study under paragraph (1)—

(A) the Board shall submit to the Secretary, the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a final report on the results of the study; and

(B) the results of the study shall be published—

(i) by the Secretary, on the Internet website of the Department; and

(ii) by the Board, on the Internet website of the Board.

(6) IMPLEMENTATION OF RESULTS.—The Bureau shall, to the maximum extent practicable, implement any recommendations made with respect to the results of the study under this subsection.

(7) COMPLIANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review of the study under this subsection.

(B) NONCOMPLIANCE.—If the Comptroller General of the United States determines that the Bureau failed to conduct the study under this subsection, the Bureau shall be ineligible to receive funds from the Highway Trust Fund until such time as the Bureau conducts the study under this subsection.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 111 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsection (k) as subsection (m);

(B) by inserting after subsection (j) the following:

''(k) ANNUAL REPORT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2005 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Bureau shall prepare and submit to the Secretary an annual report that—

''(A) describes progress made in responding to study recommendations for the fiscal year; and

''(B) summarizes the activities and expenditure of funds by the Bureau for the fiscal year.

''(2) AVAILABILITY.—The Bureau shall—

''(A) make the report described in paragraph (1) available to the public; and

''(B) publish the report on the Internet website of the Bureau.

''(3) COMBINATION OF REPORTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) may be included in or combined with the Transportation Statistics Annual Report required by subsection (j).

''(l) EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS.—Funds from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) that are authorized to be appropriated, and made available, in accordance with section 2001(a)(3) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 shall be used only for the collection and statistical analysis of information relating to surface transportation systems.''; and

(C) in subsection (m) (as redesignated by subparagraph (A)), by inserting ''surface transportation'' after ''sale of''.

(2) The analysis for chapter 55 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking the

item relating to section 5505 and inserting the following:

''5505. University transportation centers.''.

SEC. 2103. CENTERS FOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EXCELLENCE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish the centers for surface transportation excellence described in subsection (b) to promote high-quality outcomes in support of strategic national programs and activities, including—

(1) the environment;

(2) operations;

(3) surface transportation safety;

(4) project finance; and

(5) asset management.

(b) CENTERS.—The centers for surface transportation excellence referred to in subsection (a) are—

(1) a Center for Environmental Excellence to provide technical assistance, information sharing of best practices, and training in the use of tools and decision-making processes to assist States in planning and delivering environmentally-sound surface transportation projects;

(2) a Center for Operations Excellence to provide support for an integrated and coordinated national program for implementing operations in planning and management (including standards development) for the transportation system in the United States;

(3) a Center for Excellence in Surface Transportation Safety to implement a program of support for State transportation departments, including—

(A) the maintenance of an Internet site to provide critical information on safety programs;

(B) the provision of technical assistance to support a lead State transportation department for each of the safety emphasis areas (as identified by the Secretary); and

(C) the provision of training and education to enhance knowledge of personnel of State transportation departments in support of safety highway goals;

(4) a Center for Excellence in Project Finance—

(A) to provide support to State transportation departments in the development of finance plans and project oversight tools; and

(B) to develop and offer training in state-of-the-art financing methods to advance projects and leverage funds; and

(5) a Center for Excellence in Asset Management to develop and conduct research, provide training and education, and disseminate information on the benefits and tools for asset management.

(c) PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Before funds authorized under this section for fiscal years 2005 through 2009 are obligated, the Secretary shall review and approve a multiyear strategic plan to be submitted by each of the centers.

(2) TIMING.—The plan shall be submitted before the beginning of fiscal year 2005 and, subsequently, shall be annually updated.

(3) CONTENT.—The plan shall include—

(A) a list of research and technical assistance projects and objectives; and

(B) a description of any other technology transfer activities, including a summary of training efforts.

(4) COOPERATION AND COMPETITION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out this section by making grants to, or entering into contracts, cooperative agreements, and other transactions with—

(i) the National Academy of Sciences;

(ii) the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials;

(iii) planning organizations;

(iv) a Federal laboratory;

(v) a State agency;

(vi) an authority, association, institution, or organization; or

(vii) a for-profit or nonprofit corporation.

(B) COMPETITION; REVIEW.—All parties entering into contracts, cooperative agreements, or other transactions with the Secretary, or receiving grants, to perform research or provide technical assistance under this section shall be selected, to the maximum extent practicable—

(i) on a competitive basis; and

(ii) on the basis of the results of peer review of proposals submitted to the Secretary.

(5) NONDUPLICATION.—The Secretary shall ensure that activities conducted by each of the centers do not duplicate, and to the maximum extent practicable, are integrated and coordinated with similar activities conducted by the Federal Highway Administration, the local technical assistance program, university transportation centers, and other research efforts supported with funds authorized by this title.

(d) ALLOCATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, of the funds made available under section 2001(a)(1)(A), the Secretary shall set aside $10,000,000 to carry out this section.

(2) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the funds made available under paragraph (1)—

(A) 20 percent shall be allocated to the Center for Environmental Excellence established under subsection (b)(1);

(B) 30 percent shall be allocated to the Center for Operations Excellence established under subsection (b)(2);

(C) 20 percent shall be allocated to the Center for Excellence in Surface Transportation Safety established under subsection (b)(3);

(D) 10 percent shall be allocated to the Center for Excellence in Project Finance established under subsection (b)(4); and

(E) 20 percent shall be allocated to the Center for Excellence in Asset Management established under subsection (b)(5).

(3) APPLICABILITY OF TITLE 23.—Funds made available under this section shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, except that the Federal share shall be 100 percent.

SEC. 2104. MOTORCYCLE CRASH CAUSATION STUDY GRANTS.

(a) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall provide grants for the purpose of conducting a comprehensive, in-depth motorcycle crash causation study that employs the common international methodology for in-depth motorcycle accident investigation of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

(b) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made available under section 2001(a)(3), $1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 and 2005 shall be available to carry out this section.

SEC. 2105. TRANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION AND DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5117(b)(3) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (112 Stat. 449; 112 Stat. 864; 115 Stat. 2330) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) in the first sentence—

(I) by striking ''Build an'' and inserting ''Build or integrate an''; and

(II) by striking ''$2,000,000'' and inserting ''$2,500,000''; and

(ii) in the second sentence—

(I) by striking ''300,000 and that'' and inserting ''300,000,''; and

(II) by inserting before the period at the end the following: '', and includes major transportation corridors serving that metropolitan area'';

(B) in clause (ii), by striking all that follows ''will be'' and inserting ''reinvested in the intelligent transportation infrastructure system.'';

(C) by striking clause (iii); and

(D) by redesignating clauses (iv) and (v) as clauses (iii) and (iv), respectively;

(2) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking ''July 1, 2002'' and inserting ''the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2003'';

(3) in subparagraph (E), by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following:

''(ii) The term ''follow-on deployment areas'' means the metropolitan areas of Albany, Atlanta, Austin, Baltimore, Birmingham, Boston, Burlington Vermont, Charlotte, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Denver, Detroit, Greensboro, Hartford, Houston, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Louisville, Miami, Milwaukee, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Nashville, New Orleans, New York/Northern New Jersey, Norfolk, Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati, Oklahoma City, Orlando, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, Portland, Providence, Raleigh, Richmond, Sacramento, Salt Lake, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, St. Louis, Seattle, Tampa, Tucson, Tulsa, and Washington, District of Columbia.'';

(4) in subparagraph (F)—

(A) by striking ''Of the amounts'' and inserting the following:

''(i) THIS ACT.—Of the amounts''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) SAFETEA.—There are authorized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) $5,000,000 for each fiscal year to carry out this paragraph.

''(iii) AVAILABILITY; NO REDUCTION OR SETASIDE.—Amounts made available by this subparagraph—

''(I) shall remain available until expended; and

''(II) shall not be subject to any reduction or setaside.''; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(H) USE OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—An intelligent transportation system project described in paragraph (3) or (6) that involves privately owned intelligent transportation system components and is carried out using funds made available from the Highway Trust Fund shall not be subject to any law (including a regulation) of a State or political subdivision of a State prohibiting or regulating commercial activities in the rights-of-way of a highway for which Federal-aid highway funds have been used for planning, design, construction, or maintenance, if the Secretary determines that such use is in the public interest.

''(ii) EFFECT OF SUBPARAGRAPH.—Nothing in this subparagraph affects the authority of a State or political subdivision of a State to regulate highway safety.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5204 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (112 Stat. 453) is amended by striking subsection (k) (112 Stat. 2681–478).

Subtitle C—Intelligent Transportation System Research

SEC. 2201. INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 5 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by section 2101), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SUBCHAPTER II—INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

''§ 521. Finding

''Congress finds that continued investment in architecture and standards development, research, technical assistance for State and local governments, and systems integration is needed to accelerate the rate at which intelligent transportation systems—

''(1) are incorporated into the national surface transportation network; and

''(2) as a result of that incorporation, improve transportation safety and efficiency and reduce costs and negative impacts on communities and the environment.

''§ 522. Goals and purposes

''(a) GOALS.—The goals of the intelligent transportation system research and technical assistance program include—

''(1) enhancement of surface transportation efficiency and facilitation of intermodalism and international trade—

''(A) to meet a significant portion of future transportation needs, including public access to employment, goods, and services; and

''(B) to reduce regulatory, financial, and other transaction costs to public agencies and system users;

''(2) the acceleration of the use of intelligent transportation systems to assist in the achievement of national transportation safety goals, including the enhancement of safe operation of motor vehicles and nonmotorized vehicles, with particular emphasis on decreasing the number and severity of collisions;

''(3) protection and enhancement of the natural environment and communities affected by surface transportation, with particular emphasis on assisting State and local governments in achieving national environmental goals;

''(4) accommodation of the needs of all users of surface transportation systems, including—

''(A) operators of commercial vehicles, passenger vehicles, and motorcycles;

''(B) users of public transportation users (with respect to intelligent transportation system user services); and

''(C) individuals with disabilities; and

''(5)(A) improvement of the ability of the United States to respond to emergencies and natural disasters; and

''(B) enhancement of national security and defense mobility.

''(b) PURPOSES.—The Secretary shall carry out activities under the intelligent transportation system research and technical assistance program to, at a minimum—

''(1) assist in the development of intelligent transportation system technologies;

''(2) ensure that Federal, State, and local transportation officials have adequate knowledge of intelligent transportation systems for full consideration in the transportation planning process;

''(3) improve regional cooperation, interoperability, and operations for effective intelligent transportation system performance;

''(4) promote the innovative use of private resources;

''(5) assist State transportation departments in developing a workforce capable of developing, operating, and maintaining intelligent transportation systems;

''(6) maintain an updated national ITS architecture and consensus-based standards while ensuring an effective Federal presence in the formulation of domestic and international ITS standards;

''(7) advance commercial vehicle operations components of intelligent transportation systems—

''(A) to improve the safety and productivity of commercial vehicles and drivers; and

''(B) to reduce costs associated with commercial vehicle operations and Federal and State commercial vehicle regulatory requirements;

''(8) evaluate costs and benefits of intelligent transportation systems projects;

''(9) improve, as part of the Archived Data User Service and in cooperation with the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, the collection of surface transportation system condition and performance data through the use of intelligent transportation system technologies; and

''(10) ensure access to transportation information and services by travelers of all ages.

''§ 523. Definitions

''In this subchapter:

''(1) COMMERCIAL VEHICLE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS.—The term 'commercial vehicle information systems and networks' means the information systems and communications networks that support commercial vehicle operations.

''(2) COMMERCIAL VEHICLE OPERATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'commercial vehicle operations' means motor carrier operations and motor vehicle regulatory activities associated with the commercial movement of goods (including hazardous materials) and passengers.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'commercial vehicle operations', with respect to the public sector, includes—

''(i) the issuance of operating credentials;

''(ii) the administration of motor vehicle and fuel taxes; and

''(iii) roadside safety and border crossing inspection and regulatory compliance operations.

''(3) INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE.—The term 'intelligent transportation infrastructure' means fully integrated public sector intelligent transportation system components, as defined by the Secretary.

''(4) INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM.—The term 'intelligent transportation system' means electronics, communications, or information processing used singly or in combination to improve the efficiency or safety of a surface transportation system.

''(5) NATIONAL ITS ARCHITECTURE.—The term 'national ITS architecture' means the common framework for interoperability adopted by the Secretary that defines—

''(A) the functions associated with intelligent transportation system user services;

''(B) the physical entities or subsystems within which the functions reside;

''(C) the data interfaces and information flows between physical subsystems; and

''(D) the communications requirements associated with the information flows.

''(6) STANDARD.—The term 'standard' means a document that—

''(A) contains technical specifications or other precise criteria for intelligent transportation systems that are to be used consistently as rules, guidelines, or definitions of characteristics so as to ensure that materials, products, processes, and services are fit for their purposes; and

''(B) may—

''(i) support the national ITS architecture; and

''(ii) promote—

''(I) the widespread use and adoption of intelligent transportation system technology as a component of the surface transportation systems of the United States; and

''(II) interoperability among intelligent transportation system technologies implemented throughout the States.

''§ 524. General authorities and requirements

''(a) SCOPE.—Subject to this subchapter, the Secretary shall carry out an ongoing intelligent transportation system research program—

''(1) to research, develop, and operationally test intelligent transportation systems; and

''(2) to provide technical assistance in the nationwide application of those systems as a component of the surface transportation systems of the United States.

''(b) POLICY.—Intelligent transportation system operational tests and projects funded under this subchapter shall encourage, but not displace, public-private partnerships or private sector investment in those tests and projects.

''(c) COOPERATION WITH GOVERNMENTAL, PRIVATE, AND EDUCATIONAL ENTITIES.—The Secretary shall carry out the intelligent transportation system research and technical assistance program in cooperation with—

''(1) State and local governments and other public entities;

''(2) the private sector;

''(3) Federal laboratories (as defined in section 501); and

''(4) colleges and universities, including historically black colleges and universities and other minority institutions of higher education.

''(d) CONSULTATION WITH FEDERAL OFFICIALS.—In carrying out the intelligent transportation system research program, the Secretary, as appropriate, shall consult with—

''(1) the Secretary of Commerce;

''(2) the Secretary of the Treasury;

''(3) the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;

''(4) the Director of the National Science Foundation; and

''(5) the Secretary of Homeland Security.

''(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, TRAINING, AND INFORMATION.—The Secretary may provide technical assistance, training, and information to State and local governments seeking to implement, operate, maintain, or evaluate intelligent transportation system technologies and services.

''(f) TRANSPORTATION PLANNING.—The Secretary may provide funding to support adequate consideration of transportation system management and operations (including intelligent transportation systems) within metropolitan and statewide transportation planning processes.

''(g) INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) maintain a repository for technical and safety data collected as a result of federally sponsored projects carried out under this subchapter; and

''(2) on request, make that information (except for proprietary information and data) readily available to all users of the repository at an appropriate cost.

''(h) ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this subchapter, the Secretary—

''(A) may use 1 or more advisory committees; and

''(B) shall designate a public-private organization, the members of which participate in ongoing research, planning, standards development, deployment, and marketing of ITS programs, products, and services, and coordinate the development and deployment of intelligent transportation systems in the United States, as the Federal advisory committee authorized by section 5204(h) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (112 Stat. 454).

''(2) FUNDING.—Of the amount made available to carry out this subchapter, the Secretary may use $1,500,000 for each fiscal year for advisory committees described in paragraph (1).

''(3) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—Any advisory committee described in paragraph (1) shall be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

''(i) PROCUREMENT METHODS.—The Secretary shall develop and provide appropriate technical assistance and guidance to assist State and local agencies in evaluating and selecting appropriate methods of deployment and procurement for intelligent transportation system projects carried out using funds made available from the Highway Trust Fund, including innovative and nontraditional methods such as Information Technology Omnibus Procurement (as developed by the Secretary).

''(j) EVALUATIONS.—

''(1) GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall issue revised guidelines and requirements for the evaluation of operational tests and other intelligent transportation system projects carried out under this subchapter.

''(B) OBJECTIVITY AND INDEPENDENCE.—The guidelines and requirements issued under subparagraph (A) shall include provisions to ensure the objectivity and independence of the evaluator so as to avoid any real or apparent conflict of interest or potential influence on the outcome by—

''(i) parties to any such test; or

''(ii) any other formal evaluation carried out under this subchapter.

''(C) FUNDING.—The guidelines and requirements issued under subparagraph (A) shall establish evaluation funding levels based on the size and scope of each test that ensure adequate evaluation of the results of the test or project.

''(2) SPECIAL RULE.—Any survey, questionnaire, or interview that the Secretary considers necessary to carry out the evaluation of any test or program assessment activity under this subchapter shall not be subject to chapter 35 of title 44.

''§ 525. National ITS Program Plan

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) UPDATES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004, the Secretary, in consultation with interested stakeholders (including State transportation departments) shall develop a 5-year National ITS Program Plan.

''(2) SCOPE.—The National ITS Program Plan shall—

''(A) specify the goals, objectives, and milestones for the research and deployment of intelligent transportation systems in the contexts of—

''(i) major metropolitan areas;

''(ii) smaller metropolitan and rural areas; and

''(iii) commercial vehicle operations;

''(B) specify the manner in which specific programs and projects will achieve the goals, objectives, and milestones referred to in subparagraph (A), including consideration of a 5-year timeframe for the goals and objectives;

''(C) identify activities that provide for the dynamic development, testing, and necessary revision of standards and protocols to promote and ensure interoperability in the implementation of intelligent transportation system technologies, including actions taken to establish standards; and

''(D) establish a cooperative process with State and local governments for—

''(i) determining desired surface transportation system performance levels; and

''(ii) developing plans for accelerating the incorporation of specific intelligent transportation system capabilities into surface transportation systems.

''(b) REPORTING.—The National ITS Program Plan shall be transmitted and biennially updated as part of the surface transportation research and technology development strategic plan developed under section 508(c).

''§ 526. National ITS architecture and standards

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION, AND MAINTENANCE.—In accordance with section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note; 110 Stat. 783), the Secretary shall develop, implement, and maintain a national ITS architecture and supporting standards and protocols to promote the widespread use and evaluation of intelligent transportation system technology as a component of the surface transportation systems of the United States.

''(2) INTEROPERABILITY AND EFFICIENCY.—To the maximum extent practicable, the national ITS architecture shall promote interoperability among, and efficiency of, intelligent transportation system technologies implemented throughout the United States.

''(3) USE OF STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall use the services of such standards development organizations as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''(b) PROVISIONAL STANDARDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary finds that the development or selection of an intelligent transportation system standard jeopardizes the timely achievement of the objectives identified in subsection (a), the Secretary may establish a provisional standard—

''(A) after consultation with affected parties; and

''(B) by using, to the maximum extent practicable, the work product of appropriate standards development organizations.

''(2) CRITICAL STANDARDS.—If a standard identified by the Secretary as critical has not been adopted and published by the appropriate standards development organization by the date of enactment of this subchapter, the Secretary shall establish a provisional standard—

''(A) after consultation with affected parties; and

''(B) by using, to the maximum extent practicable, the work product of appropriate standards development organizations.

''(3) PERIOD OF EFFECTIVENESS.—A provisional standard established under paragraph (1) or (2) shall—

''(A) be published in the Federal Register; and

''(B) remain in effect until such time as the appropriate standards development organization adopts and publishes a standard.

''(c) WAIVER OF REQUIREMENT TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONAL CRITICAL STANDARD.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may waive the requirement under subsection (b)(2) to establish a provisional standard if the Secretary determines that additional time would be productive in, or that establishment of a provisional standard would be counterproductive to, the timely achievement of the objectives identified in subsection (a).

''(2) NOTICE.—The Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a notice that describes—

''(A) each standard for which a waiver of the provisional standard requirement is granted under paragraph (1);

''(B) the reasons for and effects of granting the waiver; and

''(C) an estimate as to the date on which the standard is expected to be adopted through a process consistent with section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note; 110 Stat. 783).

''(3) WITHDRAWAL OF WAIVER.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may withdraw a waiver granted under paragraph (1) at any time.

''(B) NOTICE.—On withdrawal of a waiver, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a notice that describes—

''(i) each standard for which the waiver has been withdrawn; and

''(ii) the reasons for withdrawing the waiver.

''(d) CONFORMITY WITH NATIONAL ITS ARCHITECTURE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), the Secretary shall ensure that intelligent transportation system projects carried out using funds made available from the Highway Trust Fund conform to the national ITS architecture, applicable standards or provisional standards, and protocols developed under subsection (a).

''(2) DISCRETION OF SECRETARY.—The Secretary may authorize exceptions to paragraph (1) for projects designed to achieve specific research objectives outlined in—

''(A) the National ITS Program Plan under section 525; or

''(B) the surface transportation research and technology development strategic plan developed under section 508(c).

''(3) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to funds used for operation or maintenance of an intelligent transportation system in existence on the date of enactment of this subchapter.

''§ 527. Commercial vehicle information systems and networks deployment

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) COMMERCIAL VEHICLE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS.—The term 'commercial vehicle information systems and networks' means the information systems and communications networks that provide the capability to—

''(A) improve the safety of commercial vehicle operations;

''(B) increase the efficiency of regulatory inspection processes to reduce administrative burdens by advancing technology to facilitate inspections and increase the effectiveness of enforcement efforts;

''(C) advance electronic processing of registration information, driver licensing information, fuel tax information, inspection and crash data, and other safety information;

''(D) enhance the safe passage of commercial vehicles across the United States and across international borders; and

''(E) promote the communication of information among the States and encourage multistate cooperation and corridor development.

''(2) COMMERCIAL VEHICLE OPERATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'commercial vehicle operations' means motor carrier operations and motor vehicle regulatory activities associated with the commercial movement of goods (including hazardous materials) and passengers.

''(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term 'commercial vehicle operations', with respect to the public sector, includes—

''(i) the issuance of operating credentials;

''(ii) the administration of motor vehicle and fuel taxes; and

''(iii) the administration of roadside safety and border crossing inspection and regulatory compliance operations.

''(3) CORE DEPLOYMENT.—The term 'core deployment' means the deployment of systems in a State necessary to provide the State with—

''(A) safety information exchange to—

''(i) electronically collect and transmit commercial vehicle and driver inspection data at a majority of inspection sites;

''(ii) connect to the Safety and Fitness Electronic Records system for access to—

''(I) interstate carrier and commercial vehicle data;

''(II) summaries of past safety performance; and

''(III) commercial vehicle credentials information; and

''(iii) exchange carrier data and commercial vehicle safety and credentials information within the State and connect to Safety and Fitness Electronic Records system for access to interstate carrier and commercial vehicle data;

''(B) interstate credentials administration to—

''(i)(I) perform end-to-end (including carrier application) jurisdiction application processing, and credential issuance, of at least the International Registration Plan and International Fuel Tax Agreement credentials; and

''(II) extend the processing to other credentials, including intrastate, titling, oversize or overweight requirements, carrier registration, and hazardous materials;

''(ii) connect to the International Registration Plan and International Fuel Tax Agreement clearinghouses; and

''(iii)(I) have at least 10 percent of the transaction volume handled electronically; and

''(II) have the capability to add more carriers and to extend to branch offices where applicable; and

''(C) roadside electronic screening to electronically screen transponder-equipped commercial vehicles at a minimum of 1 fixed or mobile inspection site and to replicate the screening at other sites.

''(4) EXPANDED DEPLOYMENT.—The term 'expanded deployment' means the deployment of systems in a State that—

''(A) exceed the requirements of a core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks;

''(B) improve safety and the productivity of commercial vehicle operations; and

''(C) enhance transportation security.

''(b) PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall carry out a commercial vehicle information systems and networks program to—

''(1) improve the safety and productivity of commercial vehicles and drivers; and

''(2) reduce costs associated with commercial vehicle operations and Federal and State commercial vehicle regulatory requirements.

''(c) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of the program to advance the technological capability and promote the deployment of intelligent transportation system applications for commercial vehicle operations, including commercial vehicle, commercial driver, and carrier-specific information systems and networks.

''(d) CORE DEPLOYMENT GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make grants to eligible States for the core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks.

''(2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a core deployment grant under this subsection, a State shall—

''(A) have a commercial vehicle information systems and networks program plan and a top level system design approved by the Secretary;

''(B) certify to the Secretary that the commercial vehicle information systems and networks deployment activities of the State (including hardware procurement, software and system development, and infrastructure modifications)—

''(i) are consistent with the national intelligent transportation systems and commercial vehicle information systems and networks architectures and available standards; and

''(ii) promote interoperability and efficiency, to the maximum extent practicable; and

''(C) agree to execute interoperability tests developed by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to verify that the systems of the State conform with the national intelligent transportation systems architecture, applicable standards, and protocols for commercial vehicle information systems and networks.

''(3) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—The maximum aggregate amount a State may receive under this subsection for the core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks may not exceed $2,500,000, including funds received under section 2001(a) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 for the core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks.

''(4) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), funds from a grant under this subsection may only be used for the core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks.

''(B) REMAINING FUNDS.—An eligible State that has completed the core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks, or completed the deployment before core deployment grant funds are expended, may use the remaining core deployment grant funds for the expanded deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks in the State.

''(e) EXPANDED DEPLOYMENT GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year, from the funds remaining after the Secretary has made core deployment grants under subsection (d), the Secretary may make grants to each eligible State, on request, for the expanded deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks.

''(2) ELIGIBILITY.—Each State that has completed the core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks shall be eligible for an expanded deployment grant.

''(3) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—Each fiscal year, the Secretary may distribute funds available for expanded deployment grants equally among the eligible States in an amount that does not exceed $1,000,000 for each State.

''(4) USE OF FUNDS.—A State may use funds from a grant under this subsection only for the expanded deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks.

''(f) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project payable from funds made available to carry out this section shall be the share applicable under section 120(b), as adjusted under subsection (d) of that section.

''(g) FUNDING.—Funds authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section shall be available for obligation in the same manner and to the same extent as if the funds were apportioned under chapter 1, except that the funds shall remain available until expended.

''§ 528. Research and development

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a comprehensive program of intelligent transportation system research, development, and operational tests of intelligent vehicles and intelligent infrastructure systems, and other similar activities that are necessary to carry out this subchapter.

''(b) PRIORITY AREAS.—Under the program, the Secretary shall give priority to funding projects that—

''(1) assist in the development of an interconnected national intelligent transportation system network that—

''(A) improves the reliability of the surface transportation system;

''(B) supports national security;

''(C) reduces, by at least 20 percent, the cost of manufacturing, deploying, and operating intelligent transportation systems network components;

''(D) could assist in deployment of the Armed Forces in response to a crisis; and

''(E) improves response to, and evacuation of the public during, an emergency situation;

''(2) address traffic management, incident management, transit management, toll collection traveler information, or highway operations systems with goals of—

''(A) reducing metropolitan congestion by 5 percent by 2010;

''(B) ensuring that a national, interoperable 511 system, along with a national traffic information system that includes a user-friendly, comprehensive website, is fully implemented for use by travelers throughout the United States by September 30, 2010; and

''(C)(i) improving incident management response, particularly in rural areas, so that rural emergency response times are reduced by an average of 10 minutes; and

''(ii) subject to subsection (d), improving communication between emergency care providers and trauma centers;

''(3) address traffic management, incident management, transit management, toll collection, traveler information, or highway operations systems;

''(4) conduct operational tests of the integration of at least 3 crash-avoidance technologies in passenger vehicles;

''(5) incorporate human factors research, including the science of the driving process;

''(6) facilitate the integration of intelligent infrastructure, vehicle, and control technologies;

''(7) incorporate research on the impact of environmental, weather, and natural conditions on intelligent transportation systems, including the effects of cold climates;

''(8) as determined by the Secretary, will improve the overall safety performance of vehicles and roadways, including the use of real-time setting of speed limits through the use of speed management technology;

''(9) examine—

''(A) the application to intelligent transportation systems of appropriately modified existing technologies from other industries; and

''(B) the development of new, more robust intelligent transportation systems technologies and instrumentation;

''(10) develop and test communication technologies that—

''(A) are based on an assessment of the needs of officers participating in a motor carrier safety program funded under section 31104 of title 49;

''(B) take into account the effectiveness and adequacy of available technology;

''(C) address systems integration, connectivity, and interoperability challenges; and

''(D) provide the means for officers participating in a motor carrier safety program funded under section 31104 of title 49 to directly assess, without an intermediary, current and accurate safety and regulatory information on motor carriers, commercial motor vehicles and drivers at roadside or mobile inspection facilities;

''(11) enhance intermodal use of intelligent transportation systems for diverse groups, including for emergency and health-related services;

''(12) improve sensing and wireless communications that provide real-time information regarding congestion and incidents;

''(13) develop and test high-accuracy, lane-level, real-time accessible digital map architectures that can be used by intelligent vehicles and intelligent infrastructure elements to facilitate safety and crash avoidance (including establishment of national standards for an open-architecture digital map of all public roads that is compatible with electronic 9-1-1 services);

''(14) encourage the dual-use of intelligent transportation system technologies (such as wireless communications) for—

''(A) emergency services;

''(B) road pricing; and

''(C) local economic development; and

''(15) advance the use of intelligent transportation systems to facilitate high-performance transportation systems, such as through—

''(A) congestion-pricing;

''(B) real-time facility management;

''(C) rapid-emergency response; and

''(D) just-in-time transit.

''(c) OPERATIONAL TESTS.—Operational tests conducted under this section shall be designed for—

''(1) the collection of data to permit objective evaluation of the results of the tests;

''(2) the derivation of cost-benefit information that is useful to others contemplating deployment of similar systems; and

''(3) the development and implementation of standards.

''(d) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs of operational tests under subsection (a) shall not exceed 80 percent.

''§ 529. Use of funds

''(a) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year, not more than $5,000,000 of the funds made available to carry out this subchapter shall be used for intelligent transportation system outreach, public relations, displays, tours, and brochures.

''(b) APPLICABILITY.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to intelligent transportation system training, scholarships, or the publication or distribution of research findings, technical guidance, or similar documents.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Title V of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century is amended by striking subtitle C (23 U.S.C. 502 note; 112 Stat. 452).

TITLE III—PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

SEC. 3001. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004''.

SEC. 3002. AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 49, UNITED STATES CODE; UPDATED TERMINOLOGY.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 49.—Except as otherwise specifically provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision of law, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of title 49, United States Code.

(b) UPDATED TERMINOLOGY.—Except for sections 5301(f), 5302(a)(7), and 5315, chapter 53, including the chapter analysis, is amended by striking ''mass transportation'' each place it appears and inserting ''public transportation''.

SEC. 3003. POLICIES, FINDINGS, AND PURPOSES.

(a) DEVELOPMENT AND REVITALIZATION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS.—Section 5301(a) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) DEVELOPMENT AND REVITALIZATION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS.—It is in the economic interest of the United States to foster the development and revitalization of public transportation systems, which are coordinated with other modes of transportation, that maximize the efficient, secure, and safe mobility of individuals and minimize environmental impacts.''.

(b) GENERAL FINDINGS.—Section 5301(b)(1) is amended—

(1) by striking ''70 percent'' and inserting ''two-thirds''; and

(2) by striking ''urban areas'' and inserting ''urbanized areas''.

(c) PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT.—Section 5301(e) is amended—

(1) by striking ''an urban'' and inserting ''a''; and

(2) by striking ''under sections 5309 and 5310 of this title''.

(d) GENERAL PURPOSES.—Section 5301(f) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''improved mass'' and inserting ''improved public''; and

(B) by striking ''public and private mass transportation companies'' and inserting ''public transportation companies and private companies engaged in public transportation'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking ''urban mass'' and inserting ''public''; and

(B) by striking ''public and private mass transportation companies'' and inserting ''public transportation companies and private companies engaged in public transportation'';

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking ''urban mass'' and inserting ''public''; and

(B) by striking ''public or private mass transportation companies'' and inserting ''public transportation companies or private companies engaged in public transportation''; and

(4) in paragraph (5), by striking ''urban mass'' and inserting ''public''.

SEC. 3004. DEFINITIONS.

Section 5302(a) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (G)(i), by inserting ''including the intercity bus and intercity rail portions of such facility or mall,'' after ''transportation mall,'';

(B) in subparagraph (G)(ii), by inserting '', except for the intercity bus portion of intermodal facilities or malls,'' after ''commercial revenue-producing facility'';

(C) in subparagraph (H)—

(i) by striking ''and'' after ''innovative'' and inserting ''or''; and

(ii) by striking ''or'' after the semicolon at the end;

(D) in subparagraph (I), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

''(J) crime prevention and security, including—

''(i) projects to refine and develop security and emergency response plans; or

''(ii) projects to detect chemical or biological agents in public transportation;

''(K) conducting emergency response drills with public transportation agencies and local first response agencies or security training for public transportation employees, except for expenses relating to operations; or

''(L) establishing a debt service reserve, made up of deposits with a bondholder's trustee, to ensure the timely payment of principal and interest on bonds issued by a grant recipient to finance an eligible project under this chapter.'';

(2) by striking paragraph (16);

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (8) through (15) as paragraphs (9) through (16), respectively;

(4) by striking paragraph (7) and inserting the following:

''(7) MASS TRANSPORTATION.—The term 'mass transportation' means public transportation.

''(8) MOBILITY MANAGEMENT.—The term 'mobility management' means a short-range planning or management activity or project that does not include operating public transportation services and—

''(A) improves coordination among public transportation providers, including private companies engaged in public transportation;

''(B) addresses customer needs by tailoring public transportation services to specific market niches; or

''(C) manages public transportation demand.'';

(5) by amending paragraph (11), as redesignated, to read as follows:

''(11) PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION.—The term 'public transportation' means transportation by a conveyance that provides local regular and continuing general or special transportation to the public, but does not include school bus, charter bus, intercity bus or passenger rail, or sightseeing transportation.'';

(6) in subparagraphs (A) and (E) of paragraph (16), as redesignated, by striking ''and'' each place it appears and inserting ''or''; and

(7) by amending paragraph (17) to read as follows:

''(17) URBANIZED AREA.—The term 'urbanized area' means an area encompassing a population of not less than 50,000 people that has been defined and designated in the most recent decennial census as an 'urbanized area' by the Secretary of Commerce.''.

SEC. 3005. METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING.

Section 5303 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 5303. Metropolitan transportation planning

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section and in section 5304, the following definitions shall apply:

''(1) CONSULTATION.—A 'consultation' occurs when 1 party—

''(A) confers with another identified party in accordance with an established process;

''(B) prior to taking action, considers the views of the other identified party; and

''(C) periodically informs that party about action taken.

''(2) METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA.—The term 'metropolitan planning area' means the geographic area determined by agreement between the metropolitan planning organization and the Governor under subsection (d).

''(3) METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION.—The term 'metropolitan planning organization' means the Policy Board of the organization designated under subsection (c).

''(4) NONMETROPOLITAN AREA.—The term 'nonmetropolitan area' means any geographic area outside all designated metropolitan planning areas.

''(5) NONMETROPOLITAN LOCAL OFFICIAL.—The term 'nonmetropolitan local official' means any elected or appointed official of general purpose local government located in a nonmetropolitan area who is responsible for transportation services for such local government.

''(b) GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) DEVELOPMENT OF PLANS AND PROGRAMS.—To accomplish the objectives described in section 5301(a), each metropolitan planning organization, in cooperation with the State and public transportation operators, shall develop transportation plans and programs for metropolitan planning areas of the State in which it is located.

''(2) CONTENTS.—The plans and programs developed under paragraph (1) for each metropolitan planning area shall provide for the development and integrated management and operation of transportation systems and facilities (including pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities) that will function as an intermodal transportation system for the metropolitan planning area and as an integral part of an intermodal transportation system for the State and the United States.

''(3) PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT.—The process for developing the plans and programs shall provide for consideration of all modes of transportation and shall be continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive to the degree appropriate, based on the complexity of the transportation problems to be addressed.

''(4) PLANNING AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT.—The metropolitan planning organization, the State Department of Transportation, and the appropriate public transportation provider shall agree upon the approaches that will be used to evaluate alternatives and identify transportation improvements that address the most complex problems and pressing transportation needs in the metropolitan area.

''(c) DESIGNATION OF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To carry out the transportation planning process under this section, a metropolitan planning organization shall be designated for each urbanized area—

''(A) by agreement between the Governor and units of general purpose local government that combined represent not less than 75 percent of the affected population (including the incorporated city or cities named by the Bureau of the Census in designating the urbanized area); or

''(B) in accordance with procedures established by applicable State or local law.

''(2) STRUCTURE.—Each metropolitan planning organization designated under paragraph (1) that serves an area identified as a transportation management area shall consist of—

''(A) local elected officials;

''(B) officials of public agencies that administer or operate major modes of transportation in the metropolitan area; and

''(C) appropriate State officials.

''(3) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to interfere with the authority, under any State law in effect on December 18, 1991, of a public agency with multimodal transportation responsibilities—

''(A) to develop plans and programs for adoption by a metropolitan planning organization; and

''(B) to develop long-range capital plans, coordinate transit services and projects, and carry out other activities pursuant to State law.

''(4) CONTINUING DESIGNATION.—The designation of a metropolitan planning organization under this subsection or any other provision of law shall remain in effect until the metropolitan planning organization is redesignated under paragraph (5).

''(5) REDESIGNATION PROCEDURES.—A metropolitan planning organization may be redesignated by agreement between the Governor and units of general purpose local government that combined represent not less than 75 percent of the existing planning area population (including the incorporated city or cities named by the Bureau of the Census in designating the urbanized area) as appropriate to carry out this section.

''(6) DESIGNATION OF MORE THAN 1 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION.—More than 1 metropolitan planning organization may be designated within an existing metropolitan planning area only if the Governor and the existing metropolitan planning organization determine that the size and complexity of the existing metropolitan planning area make designation of more than 1 metropolitan planning organization for the area appropriate.

''(d) METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA BOUNDARIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of this section, the boundaries of a metropolitan planning area shall be determined by agreement between the metropolitan planning organization and the Governor.

''(2) INCLUDED AREA.—Each metropolitan planning area—

''(A) shall encompass at least the existing urbanized area and the contiguous area expected to become urbanized within a 20-year forecast period for the transportation plan; and

''(B) may encompass the entire metropolitan statistical area or consolidated metropolitan statistical area, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget.

''(3) IDENTIFICATION OF NEW URBANIZED AREAS WITHIN EXISTING PLANNING AREA BOUNDARIES.—The designation by the Bureau of the Census of

new urbanized areas within an existing metropolitan planning area shall not require the redesignation of the existing metropolitan planning organization.

''(4) EXISTING METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREAS IN NONATTAINMENT.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), in the case of an urbanized area designated as a nonattainment area for ozone or carbon monoxide under the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.), the boundaries of the metropolitan planning area in existence as of the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004 shall be retained, except that the boundaries may be adjusted by agreement of the Governor and affected metropolitan planning organizations in accordance with paragraph (5).

''(5) NEW METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREAS IN NONATTAINMENT.—If an urbanized area is designated after the date of enactment of this paragraph in a nonattainment area for ozone or carbon monoxide, the boundaries of the metropolitan planning area—

''(A) shall be established in accordance with subsection (c)(1);

''(B) shall encompass the areas described in paragraph (2)(A);

''(C) may encompass the areas described in paragraph (2)(B); and

''(D) may address any nonattainment identified under the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) for ozone or carbon monoxide.

''(e) COORDINATION IN MULTISTATE AREAS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall encourage each Governor with responsibility for a portion of a multistate metropolitan area and the appropriate metropolitan planning organizations to provide coordinated transportation planning for the entire metropolitan area.

''(2) INTERSTATE COMPACTS.—States are authorized—

''(A) to enter into agreements or compacts with other States, which agreements or compacts are not in conflict with any law of the United States, for cooperative efforts and mutual assistance in support of activities authorized under this section as the activities pertain to interstate areas and localities within the States; and

''(B) to establish such agencies, joint or otherwise, as the States may determine desirable for making the agreements and compacts effective.

''(3) LAKE TAHOE REGION.—

''(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term 'Lake Tahoe region' has the meaning given the term 'region' in subdivision (a) of article II of the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact, as set forth in the first section of Public Law 96–551 (94 Stat. 3234).

''(B) TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS.—The Secretary shall—

''(i) establish with the Federal land management agencies that have jurisdiction over land in the Lake Tahoe region a transportation planning process for the region; and

''(ii) coordinate the transportation planning process with the planning process required of State and local governments under this section and section 5304.

''(C) INTERSTATE COMPACT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii) and notwithstanding subsection (c), to carry out the transportation planning process required by this section, California and Nevada may designate a metropolitan planning organization for the Lake Tahoe region, by agreement between the Governor of the State of California, the Governor of the State of Nevada, and units of general purpose local government that combined represent not less than 75 percent of the affected population (including the incorporated city or cities named by the Bureau of the Census in designating the urbanized area), or in accordance with procedures established by applicable State or local law.

''(ii) INVOLVEMENT OF FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCIES.—

''(I) REPRESENTATION.—The policy board of a metropolitan planning organization designated under clause (i) shall include a representative of each Federal land management agency that has jurisdiction over land in the Lake Tahoe region.

''(II) FUNDING.—In addition to funds made available to the metropolitan planning organization under other provisions of title 23 and this chapter, not more than 1 percent of the funds allocated under section 202 of title 23 may be used to carry out the transportation planning process for the Lake Tahoe region under this subparagraph.

''(D) ACTIVITIES.—Highway projects included in transportation plans developed under this paragraph—

''(i) shall be selected for funding in a manner that facilitates the participation of the Federal land management agencies that have jurisdiction over land in the Lake Tahoe region; and

''(ii) may, in accordance with chapter 2 of title 23, be funded using funds allocated under section 202 of title 23.

''(f) COORDINATION OF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS.—

''(1) NONATTAINMENT AREAS.—If more than 1 metropolitan planning organization has authority within a metropolitan area or an area which is designated as a nonattainment area for ozone or carbon monoxide under the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.), each metropolitan planning organization shall consult with the other metropolitan planning organizations designated for such area and the State in the coordination of plans required by this section.

''(2) TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS LOCATED IN MULTIPLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREAS.—If a transportation improvement funded from the highway trust fund is located within the boundaries of more than 1 metropolitan planning area, the metropolitan planning organizations shall coordinate plans regarding the transportation improvement.

''(3) INTERREGIONAL AND INTERSTATE PROJECT IMPACTS.—Planning for National Highway System, commuter rail projects, or other projects with substantial impacts outside a single metropolitan planning area or State shall be coordinated directly with the affected, contiguous, metropolitan planning organizations and States.

''(4) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PLANNING PROCESSES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall encourage each metropolitan planning organization to coordinate its planning process, to the maximum extent practicable, with those officials responsible for other types of planning activities that are affected by transportation, including State and local land use planning, economic development, environmental protection, airport operations, housing, and freight.

''(B) OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.—The metropolitan planning process shall develop transportation plans with due consideration of, and in coordination with, other related planning activities within the metropolitan area. This should include the design and delivery of transportation services within the metropolitan area that are provided by—

''(i) recipients of assistance under this chapter;

''(ii) governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations (including representatives of the agencies and organizations) that receive Federal assistance from a source other than the Department of Transportation to provide nonemergency transportation services; and

''(iii) recipients of assistance under section 204 of title 23.

''(g) SCOPE OF PLANNING PROCESS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The goals and objectives developed through the metropolitan planning process for a metropolitan planning area under this section shall address, in relation to the performance of the metropolitan area transportation systems—

''(A) supporting the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency, including through services provided by public and private operators;

''(B) increasing the safety of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users;

''(C) increasing the security of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users;

''(D) increasing the accessibility and mobility of people and for freight, including through services provided by public and private operators;

''(E) protecting and enhancing the environment (including the protection of habitat, water quality, and agricultural and forest land, while minimizing invasive species), promoting energy conservation, and promoting consistency between transportation improvements and State and local land use planning and economic development patterns (including minimizing adverse health effects from mobile source air pollution and promoting the linkage of the transportation and development goals of the metropolitan area);

''(F) enhancing the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight, including through services provided by public and private operators;

''(G) promoting efficient system management and operation; and

''(H) emphasizing the preservation and efficient use of the existing transportation system, including services provided by public and private operators.

''(2) SELECTION OF FACTORS.—After soliciting and considering any relevant public comments, the metropolitan planning organization shall determine which of the factors described in paragraph (1) are most appropriate to consider.

''(3) FAILURE TO CONSIDER FACTORS.—The failure to consider any factor specified in paragraph (1) shall not be reviewable by any court under title 23, this title, subchapter II of chapter 5 of title 5, or chapter 7 of title 5 in any matter affecting a transportation plan, a transportation improvement plan, a project or strategy, or the certification of a planning process.

''(h) DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PLAN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) REQUIREMENT.—Each metropolitan planning organization shall develop a transportation plan for its metropolitan planning area in accordance with this subsection, and update such plan—

''(i) not less frequently than once every 4 years in areas designated as nonattainment, as defined in section 107(d) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7407(d)), and in areas that were nonattainment that have been redesignated as attainment, in accordance with paragraph (3) of such section, with a maintenance plan under section 175A of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7505a); or

''(ii) not less frequently than once every 5 years in areas designated as attainment, as defined in section 107(d) of the Clean Air Act.

''(B) COORDINATION FACTORS.—In developing the transportation plan under this section, each metropolitan planning organization shall consider the factors described in subsection (f) over a 20-year forecast period.

''(C) FINANCIAL ESTIMATES.—For the purpose of developing the transportation plan, the metropolitan planning organization, transit operator, and State shall cooperatively develop estimates of funds that will be available to support plan implementation.

''(2) MITIGATION ACTIVITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A transportation plan under this subsection shall include a discussion of—

''(i) types of potential habitat, hydrological, and environmental mitigation activities that may assist in compensating for loss of habitat, wetland, and other environmental functions; and

''(ii) potential areas to carry out these activities, including a discussion of areas that may

have the greatest potential to restore and maintain the habitat types and hydrological or environmental functions affected by the plan.

''(B) CONSULTATION.—The discussion described in subparagraph (A) shall be developed in consultation with Federal and State tribal wildlife, land management, and regulatory agencies.

''(3) CONTENTS.— A transportation plan under this subsection shall be in a form that the Secretary determines to be appropriate and shall contain—

''(A) an identification of transportation facilities, including major roadways, transit, multimodal and intermodal facilities, intermodal connectors, and other relevant facilities identified by the metropolitan planning organization, which should function as an integrated metropolitan transportation system, emphasizing those facilities that serve important national and regional transportation functions;

''(B) a financial plan that—

''(i) demonstrates how the adopted transportation plan can be implemented;

''(ii) indicates resources from public and private sources that are reasonably expected to be made available to carry out the plan;

''(iii) recommends any additional financing strategies for needed projects and programs; and

''(iv) may include, for illustrative purposes, additional projects that would be included in the adopted transportation plan if approved by the Secretary and reasonable additional resources beyond those identified in the financial plan were available;

''(C) operational and management strategies to improve the performance of existing transportation facilities to relieve vehicular congestion and maximize the safety and mobility of people and goods;

''(D) capital investment and other strategies to preserve the existing metropolitan transportation infrastructure and provide for multimodal capacity increases based on regional priorities and needs; and

''(E) proposed transportation and transit enhancement activities.

''(4) CONSULTATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In each metropolitan area, the metropolitan planning organization shall consult, as appropriate, with State and local agencies responsible for land use management, natural resources, environmental protection, conservation, and historic preservation concerning the development of a long-range transportation plan.

''(B) ISSUES.—The consultation shall involve—

''(i) comparison of transportation plans with State conservation plans or with maps, if available;

''(ii) comparison of transportation plans to inventories of natural or historic resources, if available; or

''(iii) consideration of areas where wildlife crossing structures may be needed to ensure connectivity between wildlife habitat linkage areas.

''(5) COORDINATION WITH CLEAN AIR ACT AGENCIES.—In metropolitan areas in nonattainment for ozone or carbon monoxide under the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.), the metropolitan planning organization shall coordinate the development of a transportation plan with the process for development of the transportation control measures of the State implementation plan required by the Clean Air Act.

''(6) APPROVAL OF THE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.—Each transportation plan prepared by a metropolitan planning organization shall be—

''(A) approved by the metropolitan planning organization; and

''(B) submitted to the Governor for information purposes at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may reasonably require.

''(i) PARTICIPATION BY INTERESTED PARTIES.—

''(1) DEVELOPMENT OF PARTICIPATION PLAN.—Not less frequently than every 4 years, each metropolitan planning organization shall develop and adopt a plan for participation in the process for developing the metropolitan transportation plan and programs by—

''(A) citizens;

''(B) affected public agencies;

''(C) representatives of public transportation employees;

''(D) freight shippers;

''(E) providers of freight transportation services;

''(F) private providers of transportation;

''(G) representatives of users of public transit;

''(H) representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities; and

''(I) other interested parties.

''(2) CONTENTS OF PARTICIPATION PLAN.—The participation plan—

''(A) shall be developed in a manner the Secretary determines to be appropriate;

''(B) shall be developed in consultation with all interested parties; and

''(C) shall provide that all interested parties have reasonable opportunities to comment on—

''(i) the process for developing the transportation plan; and

''(ii) the contents of the transportation plan.

''(3) METHODS.—The participation plan shall provide that the metropolitan planning organization shall, to the maximum extent practicable—

''(A) hold any public meetings at convenient and accessible locations and times;

''(B) employ visualization techniques to describe plans; and

''(C) make public information available in electronically accessible format and means, such as the World Wide Web.

''(4) CERTIFICATION.—Before the metropolitan planning organizations approve a transportation plan or program, each metropolitan planning organization shall certify that it has complied with the requirements of the participation plan it has adopted.

''(j) TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—

''(1) DEVELOPMENT AND UPDATE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In cooperation with the State and affected operators of public transportation, a metropolitan planning organization designated for a metropolitan planning area shall develop a transportation improvement program for the area.

''(B) PARTICIPATION.—In developing the transportation improvement program, the metropolitan planning organization, in cooperation with the Governor and any affected operator of public transportation, shall provide an opportunity for participation by interested parties in the development of the program, in accordance with subsection (i).

''(C) UPDATES.—The transportation improvement program shall be updated not less than once every 4 years and shall be approved by the metropolitan planning organization and the Governor.

''(D) FUNDING ESTIMATE.—In developing the transportation improvement program, the metropolitan planning organization, operators of public transportation, and the State shall cooperatively develop estimates of funds that are reasonably expected to be available to support program implementation.

''(E) PROJECT ADVANCEMENT.—Projects listed in the transportation improvement program may be selected for advancement consistent with the project selection requirements.

''(F) MAJOR AMENDMENTS.—Major amendments to the list described in subparagraph (E), including the addition, deletion, or concept and scope change of a regionally significant project, may not be advanced without—

''(i) appropriate public involvement;

''(ii) financial planning;

''(iii) transportation conformity analyses; and

''(iv) a finding by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration that the amended plan was produced in a manner consistent with this section.

''(2) INCLUDED PROJECTS.—

''(A) PROJECTS UNDER CHAPTER 1 OF TITLE 23 AND THIS CHAPTER.—A transportation improvement program developed under this section for a metropolitan area shall include the projects and strategies within the metropolitan area that are proposed for funding under chapter 1 of title 23 and this chapter.

''(B) PROJECTS UNDER CHAPTER 2 OF TITLE 23.—

''(i) REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS.—Regionally significant projects proposed for funding under chapter 2 of title 23 shall be identified individually in the metropolitan transportation improvement program.

''(ii) OTHER PROJECTS.—Projects proposed for funding under chapter 2 of title 23 that are not regionally significant shall be grouped in 1 line item or identified individually in the metropolitan transportation improvement program.

''(3) SELECTION OF PROJECTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided under subsection (k)(4), the selection of federally funded projects in metropolitan planning areas shall be carried out, from the approved transportation plan—

''(i) by the State, in the case of projects under chapter 1 of title 23 or section 5308, 5310, 5311, or 5317 of this title;

''(ii) by the designated recipient, in the case of projects under section 5307; and

''(iii) in cooperation with the metropolitan planning organization.

''(B) MODIFICATIONS TO PROJECT PRIORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a project may be advanced from the transportation improvement program in place of another project in the same transportation improvement program without the approval of the Secretary.

''(4) PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) PUBLICATION OF TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—A transportation improvement program involving Federal participation shall be published or otherwise made readily available by the metropolitan planning organization for public review, including, to the maximum extent practicable, in electronically accessible formats and means, such as the World Wide Web.

''(B) PUBLICATION OF ANNUAL LISTINGS OF PROJECTS.—An annual listing of projects, including investments in pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, for which Federal funds have been obligated in the preceding 4 years shall be published or otherwise made available for public review by the cooperative effort of the State, transit operator, and the metropolitan planning organization. This listing shall be consistent with the funding categories identified in the transportation improvement program.

''(C) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004, the Secretary shall issue regulations specifying—

''(i) the types of data to be included in the list described in subparagraph (B), including—

''(I) the name, type, purpose, and geocoded location of each project;

''(II) the Federal, State, and local identification numbers assigned to each project;

''(III) amounts obligated and expended on each project, sorted by funding source and transportation mode, and the date on which each obligation was made; and

''(IV) the status of each project; and

''(ii) the media through which the list described in subparagraph (B) will be made available to the public, including written and visual components for each of the projects listed.

''(k) TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREAS.—

''(1) REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall identify each urbanized area with a population of more than 200,000 individuals as a transportation management area.

''(2) TRANSPORTATION PLANS AND PROGRAMS.—Transportation plans and programs for a metropolitan planning area serving a transportation

management area shall be based on a continuing and comprehensive transportation planning process carried out by the metropolitan planning organization in cooperation with the State and transit operators.

''(3) CONGESTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The transportation planning process under this section shall address congestion management through a process that provides for effective management and operation, based on a cooperatively developed and implemented metropolitan-wide strategy, of new and existing transportation facilities eligible for funding under title 23 and this chapter through the use of travel demand reduction and operational management strategies.

''(B) PHASE-IN SCHEDULE.—The Secretary shall establish a phase-in schedule that provides for full compliance with the requirements of this section not later than 1 year after the identification of transportation management areas under paragraph (1).

''(4) SELECTION OF PROJECTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—All federally funded projects carried out within the boundaries of a metropolitan planning area serving a transportation management area under title 23 (except for projects carried out on the National Highway System and projects carried out under the bridge program or the interstate maintenance program) or under this chapter shall be selected for implementation from the approved transportation improvement program by the metropolitan planning organization designated for the area in consultation with the State and any affected public transit operator.

''(B) NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM PROJECTS.—Projects on the National Highway System carried out within the boundaries of a metropolitan planning area serving a transportation management area and projects carried out within such boundaries under the bridge program or the interstate maintenance program under title 23 shall be selected for implementation from the approved transportation improvement program by the State in cooperation with the metropolitan planning organization designated for the area.

''(5) CERTIFICATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

''(i) ensure that the metropolitan planning process of a metropolitan planning organization serving a transportation management area is being carried out in accordance with Federal law; and

''(ii) subject to subparagraph (B), certify, not less frequently than once every 4 years in nonattainment and maintenance areas (as defined under the Clean Air Act) and not less frequently than once every 5 years in attainment areas (as defined under such Act), that the requirements of this paragraph are met with respect to the metropolitan planning process.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary may make the certification under subparagraph (A) if—

''(i) the transportation planning process complies with the requirements of this section and all other applicable Federal law; and

''(ii) a transportation plan and a transportation improvement program for the metropolitan planning area have been approved by the metropolitan planning organization and the Governor.

''(C) PENALTY FOR FAILING TO CERTIFY.—

''(i) WITHHOLDING PROJECT FUNDS.—If the metropolitan planning process of a metropolitan planning organization serving a transportation management area is not certified, the Secretary may withhold any funds otherwise available to the metropolitan planning area for projects funded under title 23 and this chapter.

''(ii) RESTORATION OF WITHHELD FUNDS.—Any funds withheld under clause (i) shall be restored to the metropolitan planning area when the metropolitan planning process is certified by the Secretary.

''(D) REVIEW OF CERTIFICATION.—In making a certification under this paragraph, the Secretary shall provide for public involvement appropriate to the metropolitan area under review.

''(l) ABBREVIATED PLANS FOR CERTAIN AREAS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), in the case of a metropolitan area not designated as a transportation management area under this section, the Secretary may provide for the development of an abbreviated transportation plan and transportation improvement program for the metropolitan planning area that the Secretary determines is appropriate to achieve the purposes of this section, after considering the complexity of transportation problems in the area.

''(2) NONATTAINMENT AREAS.—The Secretary may not permit abbreviated plans for a metropolitan area that is in nonattainment for ozone or carbon monoxide under the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.).

''(m) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN NONATTAINMENT AREAS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provisions of title 23 or this chapter, Federal funds may not be advanced for transportation management areas classified as nonattainment for ozone or carbon monoxide pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) for any highway project that will result in a significant increase in carrying capacity for single-occupant vehicles unless the project is addressed through a congestion management process.

''(2) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection applies to any nonattainment area within the metropolitan planning area boundaries determined under subsection (d).

''(n) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to confer on a metropolitan planning organization the authority to impose legal requirements on any transportation facility, provider, or project that is not eligible under title 23 or this chapter.

''(o) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds set aside under section 104(f) of title 23 or section 5308 of this title shall be available to carry out this section.

''(p) CONTINUATION OF CURRENT REVIEW PRACTICE.—Any decision by the Secretary concerning a plan or program described in this section shall not be considered to be a Federal action subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).''.

SEC. 3006. STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING.

Section 5304 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 5304. Statewide transportation planning

''(a) GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) DEVELOPMENT OF PLANS AND PROGRAMS.—To support the policies described in section 5301(a), each State shall develop a statewide transportation plan (referred to in this section as a ''Plan'') and a statewide transportation improvement program (referred to in this section as a ''Program'') for all areas of the State subject to section 5303.

''(2) CONTENTS.—The Plan and the Program developed for each State shall provide for the development and integrated management and operation of transportation systems and facilities (including pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities) that will function as an intermodal transportation system for the State and an integral part of an intermodal transportation system for the United States.

''(3) PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT.—The process for developing the Plan and the Program shall—

''(A) provide for the consideration of all modes of transportation and the policies described in section 5301(a); and

''(B) be continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive to the degree appropriate, based on the complexity of the transportation problems to be addressed.

''(b) COORDINATION WITH METROPOLITAN PLANNING; STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Each State shall—

''(1) coordinate planning under this section with—

''(A) the transportation planning activities under section 5303 for metropolitan areas of the State; and

''(B) other related statewide planning activities, including trade and economic development and related multistate planning efforts; and

''(2) develop the transportation portion of the State implementation plan, as required by the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.).

''(c) INTERSTATE AGREEMENTS.—States may enter into agreements or compacts with other States for cooperative efforts and mutual assistance in support of activities authorized under this section related to interstate areas and localities in the States and establishing authorities the States consider desirable for making the agreements and compacts effective.

''(d) SCOPE OF PLANNING PROCESS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall carry out a statewide transportation planning process that provides for the consideration of projects, strategies, and implementing projects and services that will—

''(A) support the economic vitality of the United States, the States, nonmetropolitan areas, and metropolitan areas, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency;

''(B) increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users;

''(C) increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users;

''(D) increase the accessibility and mobility of people and freight;

''(E) protect and enhance the environment (including the protection of habitat, water quality, and agricultural and forest land, while minimizing invasive species), promote energy conservation, promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local land use planning and economic development patterns, and improve the quality of life (including minimizing adverse health effects from mobile source air pollution and promoting the linkage of the transportation and development goals of the State);

''(F) enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes throughout the State, for people and freight;

''(G) promote efficient system management and operation; and

''(H) emphasize the preservation and efficient use of the existing transportation system.

''(2) SELECTION OF PROJECTS AND STRATEGIES.—After soliciting and considering any relevant public comments, the State shall determine which of the projects and strategies described in paragraph (1) are most appropriate.

''(3) MITIGATION ACTIVITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A transportation plan under this subsection shall include a discussion of—

''(i) types of potential habitat, hydrological, and environmental mitigation activities that may assist in compensating for loss of habitat, wetland, and other environmental functions; and

''(ii) potential areas to carry out these activities, including a discussion of areas that may have the greatest potential to restore and maintain the habitat types and hydrological or environmental functions affected by the plan.

''(B) CONSULTATION.—The discussion described in subparagraph (A) shall be developed in consultation with Federal and State tribal wildlife, land management, and regulatory agencies.

''(4) FAILURE TO CONSIDER FACTORS.—The failure to consider any factor described in paragraph (1) shall not be reviewable by any court under title 23, this title, subchapter II of chapter 5 of title 5, or chapter 7 of title 5 in any matter affecting a Plan, a Program, a project or strategy, or the certification of a planning process.

''(e) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out planning under this section, each State shall consider—

''(1) with respect to nonmetropolitan areas, the concerns of affected local officials with responsibility for transportation;

''(2) the concerns of Indian tribal governments and Federal land management agencies that have jurisdiction over land within the boundaries of the State; and

''(3) coordination of Plans, Programs, and planning activities with related planning activities being carried out outside of metropolitan planning areas and between States.

''(f) STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.—

''(1) DEVELOPMENT.—Each State shall develop a Plan, with a minimum 20-year forecast period for all areas of the State, that provides for the development and implementation of the intermodal transportation system of the State.

''(2) CONSULTATION WITH GOVERNMENTS.—

''(A) METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREAS.—The Plan shall be developed for each metropolitan planning area in the State in cooperation with the metropolitan planning organization designated for the metropolitan planning area under section 5303.

''(B) NONMETROPOLITAN AREAS.—With respect to nonmetropolitan areas, the statewide transportation plan shall be developed in consultation with affected nonmetropolitan officials with responsibility for transportation. The consultation process shall not require the review or approval of the Secretary.

''(C) INDIAN TRIBAL AREAS.—With respect to each area of the State under the jurisdiction of an Indian tribal government, the Plan shall be developed in consultation with the tribal government and the Secretary of the Interior.

''(D) CONSULTATION, COMPARISON, AND CONSIDERATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Plan shall be developed, as appropriate, in consultation with State and local agencies responsible for—

''(I) land use management;

''(II) natural resources;

''(III) environmental protection;

''(IV) conservation; and

''(V) historic preservation.

''(ii) COMPARISON AND CONSIDERATION.—Consultation under clause (i) shall involve—

''(I) comparison of transportation plans to State conservation plans or maps, if available;

''(II) comparison of transportation plans to inventories of natural or historic resources, if available; or

''(III) consideration of areas where wildlife crossing structures may be needed to ensure connectivity between wildlife habitat linkage areas.

''(3) PARTICIPATION BY INTERESTED PARTIES.—In developing the Plan, the State shall—

''(A) provide citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, freight shippers, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, providers of freight transportation services, and other interested parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed Plan; and

''(B) to the maximum extent practicable—

''(i) hold any public meetings at convenient and accessible locations and times;

''(ii) employ visualization techniques to describe plans; and

''(iii) make public information available in electronically accessible format and means, such as the World Wide Web.

''(4) MITIGATION ACTIVITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A Plan shall include a discussion of—

''(i) types of potential habitat, hydrological, and environmental mitigation activities that may assist in compensating for loss of habitat, wetlands, and other environmental functions; and

''(ii) potential areas to carry out these activities, including a discussion of areas that may have the greatest potential to restore and maintain the habitat types and hydrological or environmental functions affected by the plan.

''(B) CONSULTATION.—The discussion described in subparagraph (A) shall be developed in consultation with Federal and State tribal wildlife, land management, and regulatory agencies.

''(5) TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIES.—A Plan shall identify transportation strategies necessary to efficiently serve the mobility needs of people.

''(6) FINANCIAL PLAN.—The Plan may include a financial plan that—

''(A) demonstrates how the adopted Plan can be implemented;

''(B) indicates resources from public and private sources that are reasonably expected to be made available to carry out the Plan;

''(C) recommends any additional financing strategies for needed projects and programs; and

''(D) may include, for illustrative purposes, additional projects that would be included in the adopted Plan if reasonable additional resources beyond those identified in the financial plan were available.

''(7) SELECTION OF PROJECTS FROM ILLUSTRATIVE LIST.—A State shall not be required to select any project from the illustrative list of additional projects described in paragraph (6)(D).

''(8) EXISTING SYSTEM.—The Plan should include capital, operations and management strategies, investments, procedures, and other measures to ensure the preservation and most efficient use of the existing transportation system.

''(9) PUBLICATION OF LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANS.—Each Plan prepared by a State shall be published or otherwise made available, including, to the maximum extent practicable, in electronically accessible formats and means, such as the World Wide Web.

''(g) STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.—

''(1) DEVELOPMENT.—Each State shall develop a Program for all areas of the State.

''(2) CONSULTATION WITH GOVERNMENTS.—

''(A) METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREAS.—With respect to each metropolitan planning area in the State, the Program shall be developed in cooperation with the metropolitan planning organization designated for the metropolitan planning area under section 5303.

''(B) NONMETROPOLITAN AREAS.—With respect to each nonmetropolitan area in the State, the Program shall be developed in consultation with affected nonmetropolitan local officials with responsibility for transportation. The consultation process shall not require the review or approval of the Secretary.

''(C) INDIAN TRIBAL AREAS.—With respect to each area of the State under the jurisdiction of an Indian tribal government, the Program shall be developed in consultation with the tribal government and the Secretary of the Interior.

''(3) PARTICIPATION BY INTERESTED PARTIES.—In developing the Program, the State shall provide citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, freight shippers, private providers of transportation, providers of freight transportation services, representatives of users of public transit, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, and other interested parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the proposed Program.

''(4) INCLUDED PROJECTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A Program developed under this subsection for a State shall include federally supported surface transportation expenditures within the boundaries of the State.

''(B) LISTING OF PROJECTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Program shall cover a minimum of 4 years, identify projects by year, be fiscally constrained by year, and be updated not less than once every 4 years.

''(ii) PUBLICATION.—An annual listing of projects for which funds have been obligated in the preceding 4 years in each metropolitan planning area shall be published or otherwise made available by the cooperative effort of the State, transit operator, and the metropolitan planning organization for public review. The listing shall be consistent with the funding categories identified in each metropolitan transportation improvement program.

''(C) INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFICATION.—

''(i) REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS.—Regionally significant projects proposed for funding under chapter 2 of title 23 shall be identified individually in the transportation improvement program.

''(ii) OTHER PROJECTS.—Projects proposed for funding under chapter 2 of title 23 that are not determined to be regionally significant shall be grouped in 1 line item or identified individually.

''(D) CONSISTENCY WITH STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.—Each project included in the list described in subparagraph (B) shall be—

''(i) consistent with the Plan developed under this section for the State;

''(ii) identical to the project or phase of the project as described in each year of the approved metropolitan transportation improvement program; and

''(iii) in conformance with the applicable State air quality implementation plan developed under the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.), if the project is carried out in an area designated as nonattainment for ozone or carbon monoxide under that Act.

''(E) REQUIREMENT OF ANTICIPATED FULL FUNDING.—The Program shall not include a project, or an identified phase of a project, unless full funding can reasonably be anticipated to be available for the project within the time period contemplated for completion of the project.

''(F) FINANCIAL PLAN.—The Program may include a financial plan that—

''(i) demonstrates how the approved Program can be implemented;

''(ii) indicates resources from public and private sources that are reasonably expected to be made available to carry out the Program;

''(iii) recommends any additional financing strategies for needed projects and programs; and

''(iv) may include, for illustrative purposes, additional projects that would be included in the adopted transportation plan if reasonable additional resources beyond those identified in the financial plan were available.

''(G) SELECTION OF PROJECTS FROM ILLUSTRATIVE LIST.—

''(i) NO REQUIRED SELECTION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (F), a State shall not be required to select any project from the illustrative list of additional projects described in subparagraph (F)(iv).

''(ii) REQUIRED APPROVAL BY THE SECRETARY.—A State shall not include any project from the illustrative list of additional projects described in subparagraph (F)(iv) in an approved Program without the approval of the Secretary.

''(H) PRIORITIES.—The Program shall reflect the priorities for programming and expenditures of funds, including transportation and transit enhancement activities, required by title 23 and this chapter, and transportation control measures included in the State's air quality implementation plan.

''(5) PROJECT SELECTION FOR AREAS WITH FEWER THAN 50,000 INDIVIDUALS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each State, in cooperation with the affected nonmetropolitan local officials with responsibility for transportation, shall select projects to be carried out in areas with fewer than 50,000 individuals from the approved Program (excluding projects carried out under the National Highway System, the bridge program, or the interstate maintenance program under title 23 or sections 5310 and 5311 of this title).

''(B) CERTAIN PROGRAMS.—Each State, in consultation with the affected nonmetropolitan

local officials with responsibility for transportation, shall select, from the approved Program, projects to be carried out in areas with fewer than 50,000 individuals under the National Highway System, the bridge program, or the Interstate maintenance program under title 23 or under sections 5310 and 5311 of this title.

''(6) STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM APPROVAL.—A Program developed under this subsection shall be reviewed and based on a current planning finding approved by the Secretary not less frequently than once every 4 years.

''(7) PLANNING FINDING.—Not less frequently than once every 4 years, the Secretary shall determine whether the transportation planning process through which Plans and Programs are developed are consistent with this section and section 5303.

''(8) MODIFICATIONS TO PROJECT PRIORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a project included in the approved Program may be advanced in place of another project in the program without the approval of the Secretary.

''(h) FUNDING.—Funds set aside pursuant to section 104(i) of title 23 and 5308 of this title shall be available to carry out this section.

''(i) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN STATE LAWS AS CONGESTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.—For purposes of this section and section 5303, State laws, rules, or regulations pertaining to congestion management systems or programs may constitute the congestion management system under section 5303(i)(3) if the Secretary determines that the State laws, rules, or regulations are consistent with, and fulfill the intent of, the purposes of section 5303.

''(j) CONTINUATION OF CURRENT REVIEW PRACTICE.—Any decision by the Secretary under this section, regarding a metropolitan or statewide transportation plan or the Program, shall not be considered to be a Federal action subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).''.

SEC. 3007. TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT AREAS.

Section 5305 is repealed.

SEC. 3008. PRIVATE ENTERPRISE PARTICIPATION.

Section 5306 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''5305 of this title'' and inserting ''5308''; and

(B) by inserting '', as determined by local policies, criteria, and decision making,'' after ''feasible'';

(2) in subsection (b) by striking ''5303–5305 of this title'' and inserting ''5303, 5304, and 5308''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004, the Secretary shall issue regulations describing how the requirements under this chapter relating to subsection (a) shall be enforced.''.

SEC. 3009. URBANIZED AREA FORMULA GRANTS.

(a) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—Section 5307 is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (h), (j) and (k); and

(2) by redesignating subsections (i), (l), (m), and (n) as subsections (h), (i), (j), and (k), respectively.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 5307(a) is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (2)(A) to read as follows:

''(A) an entity designated, in accordance with the planning process under sections 5303, 5304, and 5306, by the chief executive officer of a State, responsible local officials, and publicly owned operators of public transportation, to receive and apportion amounts under sections 5336 and 5337 that are attributable to transportation management areas designated under section 5303; or''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) SUBRECIPIENT.—The term 'subrecipient' means a State or local governmental authority, a nonprofit organization, or a private operator of public transportation service that may receive a Federal transit program grant indirectly through a recipient, rather than directly from the Federal Government.''.

(c) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—Section 5307(b) is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation may award grants under this section for—

''(A) capital projects, including associated capital maintenance items;

''(B) planning, including mobility management;

''(C) transit enhancements;

''(D) operating costs of equipment and facilities for use in public transportation in an urbanized area with a population of less than 200,000; and

''(E) operating costs of equipment and facilities for use in public transportation in a portion or portions of an urbanized area with a population of at least 200,000, but not more than 225,000, if—

''(i) the urbanized area includes parts of more than 1 State;

''(ii) the portion of the urbanized area includes only 1 State;

''(iii) the population of the portion of the urbanized area is less than 30,000; and

''(iv) the grants will not be used to provide public transportation outside of the portion of the urbanized area.'';

(2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

''(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR FISCAL YEARS 2004 THROUGH 2006—

''(A) INCREASED FLEXIBILITY.—The Secretary may award grants under this section, from funds made available to carry out this section for each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2006, to finance the operating cost of equipment and facilities for use in mass transportation in an urbanized area with a population of at least 200,000, as determined by the 2000 decennial census of population if—

''(i) the urbanized area had a population of less than 200,000, as determined by the 1990 decennial census of population;

''(ii) a portion of the urbanized area was a separate urbanized area with a population of less than 200,000, as determined by the 1990 decennial census of population;

''(iii) the area was not designated as an urbanized area, as determined by the 1990 decennial census of population; or

''(iv) a portion of the area was not designated as an urbanized area, as determined by the 1990 decennial census, and received assistance under section 5311 in fiscal year 2002.

''(B) MAXIMUM AMOUNTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2004.—In fiscal year 2004—

''(i) amounts made available to any urbanized area under clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) shall be not more than the amount apportioned in fiscal year 2002 to the urbanized area with a population of less than 200,000, as determined in the 1990 decennial census of population;

''(ii) amounts made available to any urbanized area under subparagraph (A)(iii) shall be not more than the amount apportioned to the urbanized area under this section for fiscal year 2003; and

''(iii) each portion of any area not designated as an urbanized area, as determined by the 1990 decennial census, and eligible to receive funds under subparagraph (A)(iv), shall receive an amount of funds to carry out this section that is not less than the amount the portion of the area received under section 5311 for fiscal year 2002.

''(C) MAXIMUM AMOUNTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2005.—In fiscal year 2005—

''(i) amounts made available to any urbanized area under clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) shall be not more than 50 percent of the amount apportioned in fiscal year 2002 to the urbanized area with a population of less than 200,000, as determined in the 1990 decennial census of population;

''(ii) amounts made available to any urbanized area under subparagraph (A)(iii) shall be not more than 50 percent of the amount apportioned to the urbanized area under this section for fiscal year 2003; and

''(iii) each portion of any area not designated as an urbanized area, as determined by the 1990 decennial census, and eligible to receive funds under subparagraph (A)(iv), shall receive an amount of funds to carry out this section that is not less 50 percent of the amount the portion of the area received under section 5311 for fiscal year 2002.

''(D) MAXIMUM AMOUNTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2006.—In fiscal year 2006—

''(i) amounts made available to any urbanized area under clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) shall be not more than 25 percent of the amount apportioned in fiscal year 2002 to the urbanized area with a population of less than 200,000, as determined in the 1990 decennial census of population;

''(ii) amounts made available to any urbanized area under subparagraph (A)(iii) shall be not more than 25 percent of the amount apportioned to the urbanized area under this section for fiscal year 2003; and

''(iii) each portion of any area not designated as an urbanized area, as determined by the 1990 decennial census, and eligible to receive funds under subparagraph (A)(iv), shall receive an amount of funds to carry out this section that is not less than 25 percent of the amount the portion of the area received under section 5311 in fiscal year 2002.''; and

(3) by striking paragraph (4).

(d) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS.—Section 5307(c)(5) is amended by striking ''section 5336'' and inserting ''sections 5336 and 5337''.

(e) GRANT RECIPIENT REQUIREMENTS.—Section 5307(d)(1) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting '', including safety and security aspects of the program'' after ''program'';

(2) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''section'' and all that follows and inserting ''section, the recipient will comply with sections 5323 and 5325;'';

(3) in subparagraph (H), by striking ''sections 5301(a) and (d), 5303–5306, and 5310(a)-(d) of this title'' and inserting ''subsections (a) and (d) of section 5301 and sections 5303 through 5306'';

(4) in subparagraph (I) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(5) in subparagraph (J), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

''(K) if located in an urbanized area with a population of at least 200,000, will expend not less than 1 percent of the amount the recipient receives each fiscal year under this section for transit enhancement activities described in section 5302(a)(15).''.

(f) GOVERNMENT'S SHARE OF COSTS.—Section 5307(e) is amended—

(1) by striking the first sentence and inserting the following:

''(1) CAPITAL PROJECTS.—A grant for a capital project under this section shall cover 80 percent of the net project cost.'';

(2) by striking ''A grant for operating expenses'' and inserting the following:

''(2) OPERATING EXPENSES.—A grant for operating expenses'';

(3) by striking the fourth sentence and inserting the following:

''(3) REMAINING COSTS.—The remainder of the net project cost shall be provided in cash from non-Federal sources or revenues derived from the sale of advertising and concessions and amounts received under a service agreement with a State or local social service agency or a private social service organization.''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following: ''The prohibitions on the use of funds for matching

requirements under section 403(a)(5)(C)(vii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(5)(C)(vii)) shall not apply to the remainder.''.

(g) UNDERTAKING PROJECTS IN ADVANCE.—Section 5307(g) is amended by striking paragraph (4).

(h) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—Section 5307(k), as redesignated, is amended to read as follows:

''(k) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—

''(1) APPLICABLE PROVISIONS.—Sections 5301, 5302, 5303, 5304, 5306, 5315(c), 5318, 5319, 5323, 5325, 5327, 5329, 5330, 5331, 5332, 5333 and 5335 apply to this section and to any grant made under this section.

''(2) INAPPLICABLE PROVISIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under this section, no other provision of this chapter applies to this section or to a grant made under this section.

''(B) TITLE 5.—The provision of assistance under this chapter shall not be construed as bringing within the application of chapter 15 of title 5, any nonsupervisory employee of a public transportation system (or any other agency or entity performing related functions) to which such chapter is otherwise inapplicable.''.

SEC. 3010. PLANNING PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5308 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 5308. Planning programs

''(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—Under criteria established by the Secretary, the Secretary may award grants to States, authorities of the States, metropolitan planning organizations, and local governmental authorities, make agreements with other departments, agencies, or instrumentalities of the Government, or enter into contracts with private nonprofit or for-profit entities to—

''(1) develop transportation plans and programs;

''(2) plan, engineer, design, and evaluate a public transportation project; or

''(3) conduct technical studies relating to public transportation, including—

''(A) studies related to management, planning, operations, capital requirements, and economic feasibility;

''(B) evaluations of previously financed projects;

''(C) peer reviews and exchanges of technical data, information, assistance, and related activities in support of planning and environmental analyses among metropolitan planning organizations and other transportation planners; and

''(D) other similar and related activities preliminary to, and in preparation for, constructing, acquiring, or improving the operation of facilities and equipment.

''(b) PURPOSE.—To the extent practicable, the Secretary shall ensure that amounts appropriated pursuant to section 5338 to carry out this section and sections 5303, 5304, and 5306 are used to support balanced and comprehensive transportation planning that considers the relationships among land use and all transportation modes, without regard to the programmatic source of the planning amounts.

''(c) METROPOLITAN PLANNING PROGRAM.—

''(1) ALLOCATIONS TO STATES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allocate 80 percent of the amount made available under subsection (g)(3)(A) to States to carry out sections 5303 and 5306 in a ratio equal to the population in urbanized areas in each State, divided by the total population in urbanized areas in all States, as shown by the latest available decennial census of population.

''(B) MINIMUM ALLOCATION.—Each State shall receive not less than 0.5 percent of the total amount allocated under this paragraph.

''(2) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—A State receiving an allocation under paragraph (1) shall promptly distribute such funds to metropolitan planning organizations in the State under a formula—

''(A) developed by the State in cooperation with the metropolitan planning organizations;

''(B) approved by the Secretary of Transportation;

''(C) that considers population in urbanized areas; and

''(D) that provides an appropriate distribution for urbanized areas to carry out the cooperative processes described in this section.

''(3) SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOCATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allocate 20 percent of the amount made available under subsection (g)(3)(A) to States to supplement allocations made under paragraph (1) for metropolitan planning organizations.

''(B) ALLOCATION FORMULA.—Amounts under this paragraph shall be allocated under a formula that reflects the additional cost of carrying out planning, programming, and project selection responsibilities in complex metropolitan planning areas under sections 5303, 5304, and 5306.

''(d) STATE PLANNING AND RESEARCH PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall allocate amounts made available pursuant to subsection (g)(3)(B) to States for grants and contracts to carry out sections 5304, 5306, 5315, and 5322 so that each State receives an amount equal to the ratio of the population in urbanized areas in that State, divided by the total population in urbanized areas in all States, as shown by the latest available decennial census.

''(2) MINIMUM ALLOCATION.—Each State shall receive not less than 0.5 percent of the amount allocated under this subsection.

''(3) REALLOCATION.—A State may authorize part of the amount made available under this subsection to be used to supplement amounts available under subsection (c).

''(e) PLANNING CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a Planning Capacity Building Program (referred to in this subsection as the ''Program'') to support and fund innovative practices and enhancements in transportation planning.

''(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Program shall be to promote activities that support and strengthen the planning processes required under this section and sections 5303 and 5304.

''(3) ADMINISTRATION.—The Program shall be administered by the Federal Transit Administration in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration.

''(4) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Appropriations authorized under subsection (g)(1) to carry out this subsection may be used—

''(i) to provide incentive grants to States, metropolitan planning organizations, and public transportation operators; and

''(ii) to conduct research, disseminate information, and provide technical assistance.

''(B) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—In carrying out the activities described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary may—

''(i) expend appropriated funds directly; or

''(ii) award grants to, or enter into contracts, cooperative agreements, and other transactions with, a Federal agency, State agency, local governmental authority, association, nonprofit or for-profit entity, or institution of higher education.

''(f) GOVERNMENT'S SHARE OF COSTS.—Amounts made available to carry out subsections (c), (d), and (e) may not exceed 80 percent of the costs of the activity unless the Secretary of Transportation determines that it is in the interest of the Government not to require State or local matching funds.

''(g) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts made available under section 5338(b)(2)(B) for fiscal year 2005 and each fiscal year thereafter to carry out this section—

''(1) $5,000,000 shall be allocated for the Planning Capacity Building Program established under subsection (e);

''(2) $20,000,000 shall be allocated for grants under subsection (a)(2) for alternatives analyses required by section 5309(e)(2)(A); and

''(3) of the remaining amount—

''(A) 82.72 percent shall be allocated for the metropolitan planning program described in subsection (d); and

''(B) 17.28 percent shall be allocated to carry out subsection (b).

''(h) REALLOCATIONS.—Any amount allocated under this section that has not been used 3 years after the end of the fiscal year in which the amount was allocated shall be reallocated among the States.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 5308 in the table of sections for chapter 53 is amended to read as follows:

''5308. Planning programs.''.

SEC. 3011. CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM.

(a) SECTION HEADING.—The section heading of section 5309 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 5309. Capital investment grants''.

(b) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—Section 5309(a) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''(1) The Secretary of Transportation may make grants and loans'' and inserting the following:

''(1) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may award grants'';

(B) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''alternatives analysis related to the development of systems,'';

(C) by striking subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), and (G);

(D) by redesignating subparagraphs (E), (F), and (H) as subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D), respectively;

(E) in subparagraph (C), as redesignated, by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting '', including programs of bus and bus-related projects for assistance to subrecipients which are public agencies, private companies engaged in public transportation, or private nonprofit organizations; and''; and

(F) in subparagraph (D), as redesignated—

(i) by striking ''to support fixed guideway systems''; and

(ii) by striking ''dedicated bus and high occupancy vehicle'';

(2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

''(2) GRANTEE REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) GRANTEE IN URBANIZED AREA.—The Secretary shall require that any grants awarded under this section to a recipient or subrecipient located in an urbanized area shall be subject to all terms, conditions, requirements, and provisions that the Secretary determines to be necessary or appropriate for the purposes of this section, including requirements for the disposition of net increases in the value of real property resulting from the project assisted under this section.

''(B) GRANTEE NOT IN URBANIZED AREA.—The Secretary shall require that any grants awarded under this section to a recipient or subrecipient not located in an urbanized area shall be subject to the same terms, conditions, requirements, and provisions as a recipient or subrecipient of assistance under section 5311.

''(C) SUBRECIPIENT.—The Secretary shall require that any private, nonprofit organization that is a subrecipient of a grant awarded under this section shall be subject to the same terms, conditions, requirements, and provisions as a subrecipient of assistance under section 5310.

''(D) STATEWIDE TRANSIT PROVIDER GRANTEES.—A statewide transit provider that receives a grant under this section shall be subject to the terms, conditions, requirements, and provisions of this section or section 5311, consistent with the scope and purpose of the grant and the location of the project.''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) CERTIFICATION.—An applicant that has submitted the certifications required under subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (H) of section 5307(d)(1) shall be deemed to have provided sufficient information upon which the Secretary may make the findings required under this subsection.''.

(c) DEFINED TERM.—Section 5309(b) is amended to read as follows:

''(b) DEFINED TERM.—As used in this section, the term 'alternatives analysis' means a study conducted as part of the transportation planning process required under sections 5303 and 5304, which includes—

''(1) an assessment of a wide range of public transportation alternatives designed to address a transportation problem in a corridor or subarea;

''(2) sufficient information to enable the Secretary to make the findings of project justification and local financial commitment required under this section;

''(3) the selection of a locally preferred alternative; and

''(4) the adoption of the locally preferred alternative as part of the long-range transportation plan required under section 5303.''.

(d) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—Section 5309(d) is amended to read as follows:

''(d) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may not approve a grant for a project under this section unless the Secretary determines that—

''(1) the project is part of an approved transportation plan and program of projects required under sections 5303, 5304, and 5306; and

''(2) the applicant has, or will have—

''(A) the legal, financial, and technical capacity to carry out the project, including safety and security aspects of the project;

''(B) satisfactory continuing control over the use of the equipment or facilities; and

''(C) the capability and willingness to maintain the equipment or facilities.''.

(e) MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROJECTS OF $75,000,000 OR MORE.—Section 5309(e) is amended to read as follows:

''(e) MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROJECTS OF $75,000,000 OR MORE.—

''(1) FULL FUNDING GRANT AGREEMENT.—The Secretary shall enter into a full funding grant agreement, based on the evaluations and ratings required under this subsection, with each grantee receiving not less than $75,000,000 under this subsection for a new fixed guideway capital project that—

''(A) is authorized for final design and construction; and

''(B) has been rated as medium, medium-high, or high, in accordance with paragraph (5)(B).

''(2) DETERMINATIONS.—The Secretary may not award a grant under this subsection for a new fixed guideway capital project unless the Secretary determines that the proposed project is—

''(A) based on the results of an alternatives analysis and preliminary engineering;

''(B) justified based on a comprehensive review of its mobility improvements, environmental benefits, cost-effectiveness, operating efficiencies, economic development effects, and public transportation supportive land use patterns and policies; and

''(C) supported by an acceptable degree of local financial commitment, including evidence of stable and dependable financing sources to construct the project, and maintain and operate the entire public transportation system, while ensuring that the extent and quality of existing public transportation services are not degraded.

''(3) EVALUATION OF PROJECT JUSTIFICATION.—In making the determinations under paragraph (2)(B) for a major capital investment grant, the Secretary shall analyze, evaluate, and consider—

''(A) the results of the alternatives analysis and preliminary engineering for the proposed project;

''(B) the reliability of the forecasts of costs and utilization made by the recipient and the contractors to the recipient;

''(C) the direct and indirect costs of relevant alternatives;

''(D) factors such as—

''(i) congestion relief;

''(ii) improved mobility;

''(iii) air pollution;

''(iv) noise pollution;

''(v) energy consumption; and

''(vi) all associated ancillary and mitigation costs necessary to carry out each alternative analyzed;

''(E) reductions in local infrastructure costs achieved through compact land use development and positive impacts on the capacity, utilization, or longevity of other surface transportation assets and facilities;

''(F) the cost of suburban sprawl;

''(G) the degree to which the project increases the mobility of the public transportation dependent population or promotes economic development;

''(H) population density and current transit ridership in the transportation corridor;

''(I) the technical capability of the grant recipient to construct the project;

''(J) any adjustment to the project justification necessary to reflect differences in local land, construction, and operating costs; and

''(K) other factors that the Secretary determines to be appropriate to carry out this chapter.

''(4) EVALUATION OF LOCAL FINANCIAL COMMITMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In evaluating a project under paragraph (2)(C), the Secretary shall require that—

''(i) the proposed project plan provides for the availability of contingency amounts that the Secretary determines to be reasonable to cover unanticipated cost increases;

''(ii) each proposed local source of capital and operating financing is stable, reliable, and available within the proposed project timetable; and

''(iii) local resources are available to recapitalize and operate the overall proposed public transportation system, including essential feeder bus and other services necessary to achieve the projected ridership levels, while ensuring that the extent and quality of existing public transportation services are not degraded.

''(B) EVALUATION CRITERIA.—In assessing the stability, reliability, and availability of proposed sources of local financing under paragraph (2)(C), the Secretary shall consider—

''(i) the reliability of the forecasts of costs and utilization made by the recipient and the contractors to the recipient;

''(ii) existing grant commitments;

''(iii) the degree to which financing sources are dedicated to the proposed purposes;

''(iv) any debt obligation that exists, or is proposed by the recipient, for the proposed project or other public transportation purpose; and

''(v) the extent to which the project has a local financial commitment that exceeds the required non-Federal share of the cost of the project, provided that if the Secretary gives priority to financing projects that include more than the non-Federal share required under subsection (h), the Secretary shall give equal consideration to differences in the fiscal capacity of State and local governments.

''(5) PROJECT ADVANCEMENT AND RATINGS.—

''(A) PROJECT ADVANCEMENT.—A proposed project under this subsection shall not advance from alternatives analysis to preliminary engineering or from preliminary engineering to final design and construction unless the Secretary determines that the project meets the requirements of this section and there is a reasonable likelihood that the project will continue to meet such requirements.

''(B) RATINGS.—In making a determination under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall evaluate and rate the project on a 5-point scale (high, medium-high, medium, medium-low, or low) based on the results of the alternatives analysis, the project justification criteria, and the degree of local financial commitment, as required under this subsection. In rating the projects, the Secretary shall provide, in addition to the overall project rating, individual ratings for each of the criteria established by regulation.

''(6) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection shall not apply to projects for which the Secretary has issued a letter of intent or entered into a full funding grant agreement before the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004.

''(7) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 240 days after the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004, the Secretary shall issue regulations on the manner by which the Secretary shall evaluate and rate projects based on the results of alternatives analysis, project justification, and local financial commitment, in accordance with this subsection.

''(8) POLICY GUIDANCE.—

''(A) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall publish policy guidance regarding the new starts project review and evaluation process—

''(i) not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004; and

''(ii) each time significant changes are made by the Secretary to the new starts project review and evaluation process and criteria, but not less frequently than once every 2 years.

''(B) PUBLIC COMMENT AND RESPONSE.—The Secretary shall—

''(i) invite public comment to the policy guidance published under subparagraph (A); and

''(ii) publish a response to the comments received under clause (i).''.

(f) MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROJECTS OF LESS THAN $75,000,000.— Section 5309(f) is amended to read as follows:

''(f) MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROJECTS OF LESS THAN $75,000,000.—

''(1) PROJECT CONSTRUCTION GRANT AGREEMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enter into a project construction grant agreement, based on evaluations and ratings required under this subsection, with each grantee receiving less than $75,000,000 under this subsection for a new fixed guideway or corridor improvement capital project that—

''(i) is authorized by law; and

''(ii) has been rated as medium, medium-high, or high, in accordance with paragraph (3)(B).

''(B) CONTENTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—An agreement under this paragraph shall specify—

''(I) the scope of the project to be constructed;

''(II) the estimated net cost of the project;

''(III) the schedule under which the project shall be constructed;

''(IV) the maximum amount of funding to be obtained under this subsection;

''(V) the proposed schedule for obligation of future Federal grants; and

''(VI) the sources of non-Federal funding.

''(ii) ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—The agreement may include a commitment on the part of the Secretary to provide funding for the project in future fiscal years.

''(C) FULL FUNDING GRANT AGREEMENT.—An agreement under this paragraph shall be considered a full funding grant agreement for the purposes of subsection (g).

''(2) SELECTION PROCESS.—

''(A) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary may not award a grant under this subsection for a proposed project unless the Secretary determines that the project is—

''(i) based on the results of planning and alternatives analysis;

''(ii) justified based on a review of its public transportation supportive land use policies, cost effectiveness, and effect on local economic development; and

''(iii) supported by an acceptable degree of local financial commitment.

''(B) PLANNING AND ALTERNATIVES.—In evaluating a project under subparagraph (A)(i), the Secretary shall analyze and consider the results of planning and alternatives analysis for the project.

''(C) PROJECT JUSTIFICATION.—In making the determinations under subparagraph (A)(ii), the Secretary shall—

''(i) determine the degree to which local land use policies are supportive of the public transportation project and the degree to which the project is likely to achieve local developmental goals;

''(ii) determine the cost effectiveness of the project at the time of the initiation of revenue service;

''(iii) determine the degree to which the project will have a positive effect on local economic development;

''(iv) consider the reliability of the forecasts of costs and ridership associated with the project; and

''(v) consider other factors that the Secretary determines to be appropriate to carry out this subsection.

''(D) LOCAL FINANCIAL COMMITMENT.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii), the Secretary shall require that each proposed local source of capital and operating financing is stable, reliable, and available within the proposed project timetable.

''(3) ADVANCEMENT OF PROJECT TO DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A proposed project under this subsection may not advance from the planning and alternatives analysis stage to project development and construction unless—

''(i) the Secretary finds that the project meets the requirements of this subsection and there is a reasonable likelihood that the project will continue to meet such requirements; and

''(ii) the metropolitan planning organization has adopted the locally preferred alternative for the project into the long-range transportation plan.

''(B) EVALUATION.—In making the findings under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall evaluate and rate the project as high, medium-high, medium, medium-low, or low, based on the results of the analysis of the project justification criteria and the degree of local financial commitment, as required under this subsection.

''(4) IMPACT REPORT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 240 days after the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004, the Federal Transit Administration shall submit a report on the methodology to be used in evaluating the land use and economic development impacts of non-fixed guideway or partial fixed guideway projects to—

''(i) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

''(ii) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

''(B) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall address any qualitative and quantitative differences between fixed guideway and non-fixed guideway projects with respect to land use and economic development impacts.

''(5) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004, the Secretary shall issue regulations establishing an evaluation and rating process for proposed projects under this subsection that is based on the results of project justification and local financial commitment, as required under this subsection.''.

(g) FULL FUNDING GRANT AGREEMENTS.—Section 5309(g)(2) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(C) BEFORE AND AFTER STUDY.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Each full funding grant agreement shall require the applicant to conduct a study that—

''(I) describes and analyzes the impacts of the new start project on transit services and transit ridership;

''(II) evaluates the consistency of predicted and actual project characteristics and performance; and

''(III) identifies sources of differences between predicted and actual outcomes.

''(ii) INFORMATION COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS PLAN.—

''(I) SUBMISSION OF PLAN.—Applicants seeking a full funding grant agreement shall submit a complete plan for the collection and analysis of information to identify the impacts of the new start project and the accuracy of the forecasts prepared during the development of the project. Preparation of this plan shall be included in the full funding grant agreement as an eligible activity.

''(II) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan submitted under subclause (I) shall provide for—

''(aa) the collection of data on the current transit system regarding transit service levels and ridership patterns, including origins and destinations, access modes, trip purposes, and rider characteristics;

''(bb) documentation of the predicted scope, service levels, capital costs, operating costs, and ridership of the project;

''(cc) collection of data on the transit system 2 years after the opening of the new start project, including analogous information on transit service levels and ridership patterns and information on the as-built scope and capital costs of the new start project; and

''(dd) analysis of the consistency of predicted project characteristics with the after data.

''(D) COLLECTION OF DATA ON CURRENT SYSTEM.—To be eligible for a full funding grant agreement, recipients shall have collected data on the current system, according to the plan required, before the beginning of construction of the proposed new start project. Collection of this data shall be included in the full funding grant agreement as an eligible activity.

''(E) PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PILOT PROGRAM.—

''(i) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary may establish a pilot program to demonstrate the advantages of public-private partnerships for certain fixed guideway systems development projects.

''(ii) IDENTIFICATION OF QUALIFIED PROJECTS.—The Secretary shall identify qualified public-private partnership projects as permitted by applicable State and local enabling laws and work with project sponsors to enhance project delivery and reduce overall costs.''.

(h) FEDERAL SHARE OF NET PROJECT COST.—Section 5309(h) is amended to read as follows:

''(h) FEDERAL SHARE OF ADJUSTED NET PROJECT COST.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estimate the net project cost based on engineering studies, studies of economic feasibility, and information on the expected use of equipment or facilities.

''(2) ADJUSTMENT FOR COMPLETION UNDER BUDGET.—The Secretary may adjust the final net project cost of a major capital investment project evaluated under subsections (e) and (f) to include the cost of eligible activities not included in the originally defined project if the Secretary determines that the originally defined project has been completed at a cost that is significantly below the original estimate.

''(3) MAXIMUM FEDERAL SHARE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A grant for the project shall be for 80 percent of the net project cost, or the net project cost as adjusted under paragraph (2), unless the grant recipient requests a lower grant percentage.

''(B) EXCEPTIONS.—The Secretary may provide a higher grant percentage than requested by the grant recipient if—

''(i) the Secretary determines that the net project cost of the project is not more than 10 percent higher than the net project cost estimated at the time the project was approved for advancement into preliminary engineering; and

''(ii) the ridership estimated for the project is not less than 90 percent of the ridership estimated for the project at the time the project was approved for advancement into preliminary engineering.

''(4) OTHER SOURCES.—The costs not funded by a grant under this section may be funded from—

''(A) an undistributed cash surplus;

''(B) a replacement or depreciation cash fund or reserve; or

''(C) new capital, including any Federal funds that are eligible to be expended for transportation.

''(5) PLANNED EXTENSION TO FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEM.—In addition to amounts allowed under paragraph (1), a planned extension to a fixed guideway system may include the cost of rolling stock previously purchased if the Secretary determines that only non-Federal funds were used and that the purchase was made for use on the extension. A refund or reduction of the costs not funded by a grant under this section may be made only if a refund of a proportional amount of the grant is made at the same time.

''(6) EXCEPTION.—The prohibitions on the use of funds for matching requirements under section 403(a)(5)(C)(vii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(5)(C)(vii)) shall not apply to amounts allowed under paragraph (4).''.

(i) LOAN PROVISIONS AND FISCAL CAPACITY CONSIDERATIONS.—Section 5309 is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (i), (j), (k), and (l);

(2) by redesignating subsections (m) and (n) as subsections (i) and (j), respectively;

(3) by striking subsection (o) (as added by section 3009(i) of the Federal Transit Act of 1998); and

(4) by redesignating subsections (o) and (p) as subsections (k) and (l), respectively.

(j) ALLOCATING AMOUNTS.—Section 5309(i), as redesignated, is amended to read as follows:

''(i) ALLOCATING AMOUNTS.—

''(1) FISCAL YEAR 2004.—Of the amounts made available or appropriated for fiscal year 2004 under section 5338(a)(3)—

''(A) $1,315,983,615 shall be allocated for projects of not less than $75,000,000 for major capital projects for new fixed guideway systems and extensions of such systems under subsection (e) and projects for new fixed guideway or corridor improvement capital projects under subsection (f);

''(B) $1,199,387,615 shall be allocated for capital projects for fixed guideway modernization; and

''(C) $603,617,520 shall be allocated for capital projects for buses and bus-related equipment and facilities.

''(2) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts made available or appropriated for fiscal year 2005 and each fiscal year thereafter for grants under this section pursuant to subsections (b)(4) and (c) of section 5338—

''(A) the amounts appropriated under section 5338(c) shall be allocated for major capital projects for—

''(i) new fixed guideway systems and extensions of not less than $75,000,000, in accordance with subsection (e); and

''(ii) projects for new fixed guideway or corridor improvement capital projects, in accordance with subsection (f); and

''(B) the amounts made available under section 5338(b)(4) shall be allocated for capital projects for buses and bus-related equipment and facilities.

''(3) FIXED GUIDEWAY MODERNIZATION.—The amounts made available for fixed guideway modernization under section 5338(b)(2)(K) for fiscal year 2005 and each fiscal year thereafter shall be allocated in accordance with section 5337.

''(4) PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING.—Not more that 8 percent of the allocation described in paragraphs (1)(A) and (2)(A) may be expended on preliminary engineering.

''(5) FUNDING FOR FERRY BOATS.—Of the amounts described in paragraphs (1)(A) and (2)(A), $10,400,000 shall be available in each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2009 for capital projects in Alaska and Hawaii for new fixed guideway systems and extension projects utilizing ferry boats, ferry boat terminals, or approaches to ferry boat terminals.

''(6) BUS AND BUS FACILITY GRANTS.—

''(A) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making grants under paragraphs (1)(C) and (2)(B), the Secretary shall consider the age and condition of buses, bus fleets, related equipment, and bus-related facilities.

''(B) PROJECTS NOT IN URBANIZED AREAS.—Of the amounts made available under paragraphs (1)(C) and (2)(B), not less than 5.5 percent shall be available in each fiscal year for projects that are not in urbanized areas.

''(C) INTERMODAL TERMINALS.—Of the amounts made available under paragraphs (1)(C) and (2)(B), not less than $75,000,000 shall be available in each fiscal year for intermodal terminal projects, including the intercity bus portion of such projects.''.

(k) REPORTS.—Section 5309 is amended by inserting at the end the following:

''(m) REPORTS.—

''(1) ANNUAL REPORT ON FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the first Monday of February of each year, the Secretary shall submit a report on funding recommendations to—

''(i) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

''(ii) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

''(iii) the Subcommittee on Transportation of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

''(iv) the Subcommittee on Transportation of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

''(B) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall contain—

''(i) a proposal on the allocation of amounts to finance grants for capital investment projects among grant applicants;

''(ii) a recommendation of projects to be funded based on—

''(I) the evaluations and ratings determined under subsection (e) and (f); and

''(II) existing commitments and anticipated funding levels for the subsequent 3 fiscal years; and

''(iii) detailed ratings and evaluations on each project recommended for funding.

''(2) TRIENNIAL REPORTS ON PROJECT RATINGS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the first Monday of February, the first Monday of June, and the first Monday of October of each year, the Secretary shall submit a report on project ratings to—

''(i) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

''(ii) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

''(iii) the Subcommittee on Transportation of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

''(iv) the Subcommittee on Transportation of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

''(B) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall contain—

''(i) a summary of the ratings of all capital investment projects for which funding was requested under this section;

''(ii) detailed ratings and evaluations on the project of each applicant that had significant changes to the finance or project proposal or has completed alternatives analysis or preliminary engineering since the date of the latest report; and

''(iii) all relevant information supporting the evaluation and rating of each updated project, including a summary of the financial plan of each updated project.

''(3) BEFORE AND AFTER STUDY REPORTS.—Not later than the first Monday of August of each year, the Secretary shall submit a report containing a summary of the results of the studies conducted under subsection (g)(2) to—

''(A) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

''(B) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate;

''(C) the Subcommittee on Transportation of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

''(D) the Subcommittee on Transportation of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

''(4) CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT REPORT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004, and each year thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report analyzing the consistency and accuracy of cost and ridership estimates made by each contractor to public transportation agencies developing major investment projects to the committees and subcommittees listed under paragraph (3).

''(B) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall compare the cost and ridership estimates made at the time projects are approved for entrance into preliminary engineering with—

''(i) estimates made at the time projects are approved for entrance into final design;

''(ii) costs and ridership when the project commences revenue operation; and

''(iii) costs and ridership when the project has been in operation for 2 years.

''(5) ANNUAL GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE REVIEW.—

''(A) REVIEW.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an annual review of the processes and procedures for evaluating and rating projects and recommending projects and the Secretary's implementation of such processes and procedures.

''(B) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the submission of each report required under paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall submit a report to Congress that summarizes the results of the review conducted under subparagraph (A).

''(6) CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004, the Secretary shall submit a report to the committees and subcommittees listed under paragraph (3) on the suitability of allowing contractors to public transportation agencies that undertake major capital investments under this section to receive performance incentive awards if a project is completed for less than the original estimated cost.''.

SEC. 3012. NEW FREEDOM FOR ELDERLY PERSONS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5310 is amended to read as follows:

''§5310. New freedom for elderly persons and persons with disabilities

''(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—

''(1) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary may award grants to a State for capital public transportation projects that are planned, designed, and carried out to meet the needs of elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities, with priority given to the needs of these individuals to access necessary health care.

''(2) ACQUISITION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.—A capital public transportation project under this section may include acquiring public transportation services as an eligible capital expense.

''(3) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—A State may use not more than 15 percent of the amounts received under this section to administer, plan, and provide technical assistance for a project funded under this section.

''(b) ALLOTMENTS AMONG STATES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made available or appropriated in each fiscal year under subsections (a)(1)(C)(iv) and (b)(2)(D) of section 5338 for grants under this section, the Secretary shall allot amounts to each State under a formula based on the number of elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities in each State.

''(2) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Any funds allotted to a State under paragraph (1) may be transferred by the State to the apportionments made under sections 5311(c) and 5336 if such funds are only used for eligible projects selected under this section.

''(3) REALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—A State receiving a grant under this section may reallocate such grant funds to—

''(A) a private nonprofit organization;

''(B) a public transportation agency or authority; or

''(C) a governmental authority that—

''(i) has been approved by the State to coordinate services for elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities;

''(ii) certifies that nonprofit organizations are not readily available in the area that can provide the services described under this subsection; or

''(iii) will provide services to persons with disabilities that exceed those services required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

''(c) FEDERAL SHARE.—

''(1) MAXIMUM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A grant for a capital project under this section may not exceed 80 percent of the net capital costs of the project, as determined by the Secretary.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—A State described in section 120(d) of title 23 shall receive an increased Federal share in accordance with the formula under that section.

''(2) REMAINING COSTS.—The costs of a capital project under this section that are not funded through a grant under this section—

''(A) may be funded from an undistributed cash surplus, a replacement or depreciation cash fund or reserve, a service agreement with a State or local social service agency or a private social service organization, or new capital; and

''(B) may be derived from amounts appropriated to or made available to any Federal agency (other than the Department of Transportation, except for Federal Lands Highway funds) that are eligible to be expended for transportation.

''(3) EXCEPTION.—For purposes of paragraph (2), the prohibitions on the use of funds for matching requirements under section 403(a)(5)(C)(vii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(5)(C)(vii)) shall not apply to Federal or State funds to be used for transportation purposes.

''(d) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A grant recipient under this section shall be subject to the requirements of a grant recipient under section 5307 to the extent the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''(2) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) FUND TRANSFERS.—A grant recipient under this section that transfers funds to a project funded under section 5336 in accordance with subsection (b)(2) shall certify that the project for which the funds are requested has been coordinated with private nonprofit providers of services under this section.

''(B) PROJECT SELECTION AND PLAN DEVELOPMENT.—Each grant recipient under this section shall certify that—

''(i) the projects selected were derived from a locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan; and

''(ii) the plan was developed through a process that included representatives of public, private, and nonprofit transportation and human services providers and participation by the public.

''(C) ALLOCATIONS TO SUBRECIPIENTS.—Each grant recipient under this section shall certify that allocations of the grant to subrecipients, if

any, are distributed on a fair and equitable basis.

''(e) STATE PROGRAM OF PROJECTS.—

''(1) SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY.—Each State shall annually submit a program of transportation projects to the Secretary for approval with an assurance that the program provides for maximum feasible coordination between transportation services funded under this section and transportation services assisted by other Federal sources.

''(2) USE OF FUNDS.—Each State may use amounts made available to carry out this section to provide transportation services for elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities if such services are included in an approved State program of projects.

''(f) LEASING VEHICLES.—Vehicles acquired under this section may be leased to local governmental authorities to improve transportation services designed to meet the needs of elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities.

''(g) MEAL DELIVERY FOR HOMEBOUND INDIVIDUALS.—Public transportation service providers receiving assistance under this section or section 5311(c) may coordinate and assist in regularly providing meal delivery service for homebound individuals if the delivery service does not conflict with providing public transportation service or reduce service to public transportation passengers.

''(h) TRANSFERS OF FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT.—With the consent of the recipient in possession of a facility or equipment acquired with a grant under this section, a State may transfer the facility or equipment to any recipient eligible to receive assistance under this chapter if the facility or equipment will continue to be used as required under this section.

''(i) FARES NOT REQUIRED.—This section does not require that elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities be charged a fare.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 5310 in the table of sections for chapter 53 is amended to read as follows:

''5310. New freedom for elderly persons and persons with disabilities.''.

SEC. 3013. FORMULA GRANTS FOR OTHER THAN URBANIZED AREAS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 5311(a) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the following definitions shall apply:

''(1) RECIPIENT.—The term 'recipient' means a State or Indian tribe that receives a Federal transit program grant directly from the Federal Government.

''(2) SUBRECIPIENT.—The term 'subrecipient' means a State or local governmental authority, a nonprofit organization, or a private operator of public transportation or intercity bus service that receives Federal transit program grant funds indirectly through a recipient.''.

(b) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—Section 5311(b) is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—Except as provided under paragraph (2), the Secretary may award grants under this section to recipients located in areas other than urbanized areas for—

''(A) public transportation capital projects;

''(B) operating costs of equipment and facilities for use in public transportation; and

''(C) the acquisition of public transportation services.'';

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3);

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) STATE PROGRAM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A project eligible for a grant under this section shall be included in a State program for public transportation service projects, including agreements with private providers of public transportation service.

''(B) SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY.—Each State shall annually submit the program described in subparagraph (A) to the Secretary.

''(C) APPROVAL.—The Secretary may not approve the program unless the Secretary determines that—

''(i) the program provides a fair distribution of amounts in the State; and

''(ii) the program provides the maximum feasible coordination of public transportation service assisted under this section with transportation service assisted by other Federal sources.'';

(4) in paragraph (3), as redesignated—

(A) by striking ''(3) The Secretary of Transportation'' and inserting the following:

''(3) RURAL TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary'';

(B) by striking ''make'' and inserting ''use not more than 2 percent of the amount made available to carry out this section to award''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) DATA COLLECTION.—

''(i) REPORT.—Each grantee under this section shall submit an annual report to the Secretary containing information on capital investment, operations, and service provided with funds received under this section, including—

''(I) total annual revenue;

''(II) sources of revenue;

''(III) total annual operating costs;

''(IV) total annual capital costs;

''(V) fleet size and type, and related facilities;

''(VI) revenue vehicle miles; and

''(VII) ridership.''; and

(5) by adding after paragraph (3) the following:

''(4) Of the amount made available to carry out paragraph (3)—

''(A) not more than 15 percent may be used to carry out projects of a national scope; and

''(B) any amounts not used under subparagraph (A) shall be allocated to the States.''.

(c) APPORTIONMENTS.—Section 5311(c) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) APPORTIONMENTS.—

''(1) PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS.—Of the amounts made available or appropriated for each fiscal year pursuant to subsections (a)(1)(C)(v) and (b)(2)(F) of section 5338, the following amounts shall be apportioned for grants to Indian tribes for any purpose eligible under this section, under such terms and conditions as may be established by the Secretary:

''(A) $6,000,000 for fiscal year 2005.

''(B) $8,000,000 for fiscal year 2006.

''(C) $10,000,000 for fiscal year 2007.

''(D) $12,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.

''(E) $15,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

''(2) REMAINING AMOUNTS.—Of the amounts made available or appropriated for each fiscal year pursuant to subsections (a)(1)(C)(v) and (b)(2)(F) of section 5338 that are not apportioned under paragraph (1)—

''(A) 20 percent shall be apportioned to the States in accordance with paragraph (3); and

''(B) 80 percent shall be apportioned to the States in accordance with paragraph (4).

''(3) APPORTIONMENTS BASED ON LAND AREA IN NONURBANIZED AREAS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), each State shall receive an amount that is equal to the amount apportioned under paragraph (2)(A) multiplied by the ratio of the land area in areas other than urbanized areas in that State and divided by the land area in all areas other than urbanized areas in the United States, as shown by the most recent decennial census of population.

''(B) MAXIMUM APPORTIONMENT.—No State shall receive more than 5 percent of the amount apportioned under this paragraph.

''(4) APPORTIONMENTS BASED ON POPULATION IN NONURBANIZED AREAS.—Each State shall receive an amount equal to the amount apportioned under paragraph (2)(B) multiplied by the ratio of the population of areas other than urbanized areas in that State divided by the population of all areas other than urbanized areas in the United States, as shown by the most recent decennial census of population.''.

(d) USE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE, PLANNING, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 5311(e) is amended—

(1) by striking ''AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—(1) The Secretary of Transportation'' and inserting '', PLANNING, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary'';

(2) by striking ''to a recipient''; and

(3) by striking paragraph (2).

(e) INTERCITY BUS TRANSPORTATION.—Section 5311(f) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''(1)'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—''; and

(B) by striking ''after September 30, 1993,''; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking ''A State'' and inserting ''After consultation with affected intercity bus service providers, a State''; and

(B) by striking ''of Transportation''.

(f) FEDERAL SHARE OF COSTS.—Section 5311(g) is amended to read as follows:

''(g) FEDERAL SHARE OF COSTS.—

''(1) MAXIMUM FEDERAL SHARE.—

''(A) CAPITAL PROJECTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under clause (ii), a grant awarded under this section for any purpose other than operating assistance may not exceed 80 percent of the net capital costs of the project, as determined by the Secretary.

''(ii) EXCEPTION.—A State described in section 120(d) of title 23 shall receive a Federal share of the net capital costs in accordance with the formula under that section.

''(B) OPERATING ASSISTANCE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under clause (ii), a grant made under this section for operating assistance may not exceed 50 percent of the net operating costs of the project, as determined by the Secretary.

''(ii) EXCEPTION.—A State described in section 120(d) of title 23 shall receive a Federal share of the net operating costs equal to 62.5 percent of the Federal share provided for under subparagraph (A)(ii).

''(2) OTHER FUNDING SOURCES.—Funds for a project under this section that are not provided for by a grant under this section—

''(A) may be provided from—

''(i) an undistributed cash surplus;

''(ii) a replacement or depreciation cash fund or reserve;

''(iii) a service agreement with a State or local social service agency or a private social service organization; or

''(iv) new capital; and

''(B) may be derived from amounts appropriated to or made available to a Federal agency (other than the Department of Transportation, except for Federal Land Highway funds) that are eligible to be expended for transportation.

''(3) USE OF FEDERAL GRANT.—A State carrying out a program of operating assistance under this section may not limit the level or extent of use of the Federal grant for the payment of operating expenses.

''(4) EXCEPTION.—For purposes of paragraph (2)(B), the prohibitions on the use of funds for matching requirements under section 403(a)(5)(c)(vii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(5)(c)(vii)) shall not apply to Federal or State funds to be used for transportation purposes.''.

(g) WAIVER CONDITION.—Section 5311(j)(1) is amended by striking ''but the Secretary of Labor may waive the application of section 5333(b)'' and inserting ''if the Secretary of Labor utilizes a Special Warranty that provides a fair and equitable arrangement to protect the interests of employees''.

SEC. 3014. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, DEMONSTRATION, AND DEPLOYMENT PROJECTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5312 is amended—

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

''(a) RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may make grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, or other transactions (including agreements with departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States Government) for research, development, demonstration or deployment projects, or evaluation of technology of national significance to public transportation that the Secretary determines will improve public transportation service or help public transportation service meet the total transportation needs at a minimum cost.

''(2) INFORMATION.—The Secretary may request and receive appropriate information from any source.

''(3) SAVINGS PROVISION.—This subsection does not limit the authority of the Secretary under any other law.'';

(2) by striking subsections (b) and (c);

(3) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as (b) and (c), respectively.

(4) in subsection (b), as redesignated—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking ''other agreements'' and inserting ''other transactions''; and

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking ''within the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund''; and

(5) in subsection (c), as redesignated—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking ''public and private'' and inserting ''public or private''; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking ''within the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund'' .

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SECTION HEADING.—The heading of section 5312 is amended to read as follows:

''§5312. Research, development, demonstration, and deployment projects''.

(2) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The item relating to section 5312 in the table of sections for chapter 53 is amended to read as follows:

''5312. Research, development, demonstration, and deployment projects.''.

SEC. 3015. TRANSIT COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5313 is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b);

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''(1) The amounts made available under paragraphs (1) and (2)C)(ii) of section 5338(c) of this title'' and inserting ''The amounts made available under subsections (a)(5)(C)(iii) and (b)(2)(G)(i) of section 5338''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''(2)'' and inserting the following:

''(b) FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.—''; and

(3) by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

''(c) FEDERAL SHARE.—If there would be a clear and direct financial benefit to an entity under a grant or contract financed under this section, the Secretary shall establish a Federal share consistent with such benefit.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SECTION HEADING.—The heading of section 5313 is amended to read as follows:

''§5313. Transit cooperative research program''.

(2) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The item relating to section 5313 in the table of sections for chapter 53 is amended to read as follows:

''5313. Transit cooperative research program.''.

SEC. 3016. NATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5314 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—The Secretary may use amounts made available under subsections (a)(5)(C)(iv) and (b)(2)(G)(iv) of section 5338 for grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, or other transactions for the purposes described in sections 5312, 5315, and 5322.'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''(2) Of'' and inserting the following:

''(2) ADA COMPLIANCE.—From'';

(C) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

''(3) SPECIAL DEMONSTRATION INITIATIVES.—The Secretary may use not more than 25 percent of the amounts made available under paragraph (1) for special demonstration initiatives, subject to terms that the Secretary determines to be consistent with this chapter. For a nonrenewable grant of not more than $100,000, the Secretary shall provide expedited procedures for complying with the requirements of this chapter.'';

(D) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (B); and

(ii) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B); and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION DEMONSTRATION GRANTS.—

''(A) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may award demonstration grants, from funds made available under paragraph (1), to eligible entities to provide transportation services to individuals to access dialysis treatments and other medical treatments for renal disease.

''(B) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An entity shall be eligible to receive a grant under this paragraph if the entity—

''(i) meets the conditions described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; or

''(ii) is an agency of a State or unit of local government.

''(C) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds received under this paragraph may be used to provide transportation services to individuals to access dialysis treatments and other medical treatments for renal disease.

''(D) APPLICATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity desiring a grant under this paragraph shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, at such place, and containing such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

''(ii) SELECTION OF GRANTEES.—In awarding grants under this paragraph, the Secretary shall give preference to eligible entities from communities with—

''(I) high incidence of renal disease; and

''(II) limited access to dialysis facilities.

''(E) RULEMAKING.—The Secretary shall issue regulations to implement and administer the grant program established under this paragraph.

''(F) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit a report on the results of the demonstration projects funded under this paragraph to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.''; and

(2) by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

''(b) FEDERAL SHARE.—If there would be a clear and direct financial benefit to an entity under a grant, contract, cooperative agreement, or other transaction financed under subsection (a) or section 5312, 5313, 5315, or 5322, the Secretary shall establish a Federal share consistent with such benefit.''.

(c) NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER FOR SENIOR TRANSPORTATION; ALTERNATIVE FUELS STUDY.—Section 5314 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER FOR SENIOR TRANSPORTATION.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall award grants to a national not-for-profit organization for the establishment and maintenance of a national technical assistance center.

''(2) ELIGIBILITY.—An organization shall be eligible to receive the grant under paragraph (1) if the organization—

''(A) focuses significantly on serving the needs of the elderly;

''(B) has demonstrated knowledge and expertise in senior transportation policy and planning issues;

''(C) has affiliates in a majority of the States;

''(D) has the capacity to convene local groups to consult on operation and development of senior transportation programs; and

''(E) has established close working relationships with the Federal Transit Administration and the Administration on Aging.

''(3) USE OF FUNDS.—The national technical assistance center established under this section shall—

''(A) gather best practices from throughout the country and provide such practices to local communities that are implementing senior transportation programs;

''(B) work with teams from local communities to identify how they are successfully meeting the transportation needs of senior and any gaps in services in order to create a plan for an integrated senior transportation program;

''(C) provide resources on ways to pay for senior transportation services;

''(D) create a web site to publicize and circulate information on senior transportation programs;

''(E) establish a clearinghouse for print, video, and audio resources on senior mobility; and

''(F) administer the demonstration grant program established under paragraph (4).

''(4) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The national technical assistance center established under this section, in consultation with the Federal Transit Administration, shall award senior transportation demonstration grants to—

''(i) local transportation organizations;

''(ii) State agencies;

''(iii) units of local government; and

''(iv) nonprofit organizations.

''(B) USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds received under this paragraph may be used to—

''(i) evaluate the state of transportation services for senior citizens;

''(ii) recognize barriers to mobility that senior citizens encounter in their communities;

''(iii) establish partnerships and promote coordination among community stakeholders, including public, not-for-profit, and for-profit providers of transportation services for senior citizens;

''(iv) identify future transportation needs of senior citizens within local communities; and

''(v) establish strategies to meet the unique needs of healthy and frail senior citizens.

''(C) SELECTION OF GRANTEES.—The Secretary shall select grantees under this subsection based on a fair representation of various geographical locations throughout the United States.

''(5) ALLOCATIONS.—From the funds made available for each fiscal year under subsections (a)(5)(C)(iv) and (b)(2)(G)(iv) of section 5338, $3,000,000 shall be allocated to carry out this subsection.

''(d) ALTERNATIVE FUELS STUDY.—

''(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study of the actions necessary to facilitate the purchase of increased volumes of alternative fuels (as defined in section 301 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13211)) for use in public transit vehicles

''(2) SCOPE OF STUDY.—The study conducted under this subsection shall focus on the incentives necessary to increase the use of alternative fuels in public transit vehicles, including buses, fixed guideway vehicles, and ferries.

''(3) CONTENTS.—The study shall consider—

''(A) the environmental benefits of increased use of alternative fuels in transit vehicles;

''(B) existing opportunities available to transit system operators that encourage the purchase of alternative fuels for transit vehicle operation;

''(C) existing barriers to transit system operators that discourage the purchase of alternative fuels for transit vehicle operation, including situations where alternative fuels that do not require capital improvements to transit vehicles

are disadvantaged over fuels that do require such improvements; and

''(D) the necessary levels and type of support necessary to encourage additional use of alternative fuels for transit vehicle operation.

''(4) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The study shall recommend regulatory and legislative alternatives that will result in the increased use of alternative fuels in transit vehicles.

''(5) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004, the Secretary shall submit the study completed under this subsection to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SECTION HEADING.—The heading for section 5314 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 5314. National research programs''.

(2) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The item relating to section 5314 in the table of sections for chapter 53 is amended to read as follows:

''5314. National research programs.''.

SEC. 3017. NATIONAL TRANSIT INSTITUTE.

(a) Section 5315 is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall award a grant to Rutgers University to conduct a national transit institute.

''(b) DUTIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In cooperation with the Federal Transit Administration, State transportation departments, public transportation authorities, and national and international entities, the institute established pursuant to subsection (a) shall develop and conduct training programs for Federal, State, and local transportation employees, United States citizens, and foreign nationals engaged or to be engaged in Government-aid public transportation work.

''(2) TRAINING PROGRAMS.—The training programs developed under paragraph (1) may include courses in recent developments, techniques, and procedures related to—

''(A) intermodal and public transportation planning;

''(B) management;

''(C) environmental factors;

''(D) acquisition and joint use rights of way;

''(E) engineering and architectural design;

''(F) procurement strategies for public transportation systems;

''(G) turnkey approaches to delivering public transportation systems;

''(H) new technologies;

''(I) emission reduction technologies;

''(J) ways to make public transportation accessible to individuals with disabilities;

''(K) construction, construction management, insurance, and risk management;

''(L) maintenance;

''(M) contract administration;

''(N) inspection;

''(O) innovative finance;

''(P) workplace safety; and

''(Q) public transportation security.''; and

(2) in subsection (d), by striking ''mass'' each place it appears.

SEC. 3018. BUS TESTING FACILITY.

Section 5318 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Transportation shall establish one facility'' and inserting ''IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall maintain 1 facility''; and

(B) by striking ''established by renovating'' and inserting ''maintained at''; and

(2) in subsection (d), by striking ''section 5309(m)(1)(C) of this title'' and inserting ''paragraphs (1)(C) and (2)(B) of section 5309(i)''.

SEC. 3019. BICYCLE FACILITIES.

Section 5319 is amended by striking ''5307(k)'' and inserting ''5307(d)(1)(K)''.

SEC. 3020. SUSPENDED LIGHT RAIL TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROJECT.

Section 5320 is repealed.

SEC. 3021. CRIME PREVENTION AND SECURITY.

Section 5321 is repealed.

SEC. 3022. GENERAL PROVISIONS ON ASSISTANCE.

Section 5323 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Financial assistance provided under this chapter to a State or a local governmental authority may be used to acquire an interest in, or to buy property of, a private company engaged in public transportation, for a capital project for property acquired from a private company engaged in public transportation after July 9, 1964, or to operate a public transportation facility or equipment in competition with, or in addition to, transportation service provided by an existing public transportation company, only if—

''(A) the Secretary determines that such financial assistance is essential to a program of projects required under sections 5303, 5304, and 5306;

''(B) the Secretary determines that the program provides for the participation of private companies engaged in public transportation to the maximum extent feasible; and

''(C) just compensation under State or local law will be paid to the company for its franchise or property.''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''(2)'' and inserting the following:

''(2) LIMITATION.—'';

(2) by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

''(b) NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An application for a grant under this chapter for a capital project that will substantially affect a community, or the public transportation service of a community, shall include, in the environmental record for the project, evidence that the applicant has—

''(A) provided an adequate opportunity for public review and comment on the project;

''(B) held a public hearing on the project if the project affects significant economic, social, or environmental interests;

''(C) considered the economic, social, and environmental effects of the project; and

''(D) found that the project is consistent with official plans for developing the urban area.

''(2) CONTENTS OF NOTICE.—Notice of a hearing under this subsection—

''(A) shall include a concise description of the proposed project; and

''(B) shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the geographic area the project will serve.'';

(3) by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

''(c) NEW TECHNOLOGY.—A grant for financial assistance under this chapter for new technology, including innovative or improved products, techniques, or methods, shall be subject to the requirements of section 5309 to the extent the Secretary determines to be appropriate.'';

(4) by amending subsection (d) to read as follows:

''(d) CONDITIONS ON BUS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE.—Financial assistance under this chapter may be used to buy or operate a bus only if the recipient agrees to comply with the following conditions on bus transportation service:

''(1) CHARTER BUS SERVICE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under subparagraph (B), a recipient may provide incidental charter bus service only within its lawful service area if—

''(i) the recipient annually publishes, by electronic and other appropriate means, a notice—

''(I) indicating its intent to offer incidental charter bus service within its lawful service area; and

''(II) soliciting notices from private bus operators that wish to appear on a list of carriers offering charter bus service in that service area;

''(ii) the recipient provides private bus operators with an annual opportunity to notify the recipient of its desire to appear on a list of carriers offering charter bus service in such service area;

''(iii) upon receiving a request for charter bus service, the recipient electronically notifies the private bus operators listed as offering charter service in that service area with the name and contact information of the requestor and the nature of the charter service request; and

''(iv) the recipient does not offer to provide charter bus service unless no private bus operator indicates that it is willing and able to provide the service within a 72-hour period after the receipt of such notice.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—A recipient that operates 2,000 or fewer vehicles in fixed-route peak hour service may provide incidental charter bus transportation directly to —

''(i) local governments; and

''(ii) social service entities with limited resources.

''(C) IRREGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS.—Service, other than commuter service, by a recipient to irregularly scheduled events, where the service is conducted in whole or in part outside the service area of the recipient, regardless of whether the service is contracted for individually with passengers, is subject to a rebuttable presumption that such service is charter service.

''(2) VIOLATION OF AGREEMENTS.—

''(A) COMPLAINTS.—A complaint regarding the violation of a charter bus service agreement shall be submitted to the Regional Administrator of the Federal Transit Administration, who shall—

''(i) provide a reasonable opportunity for the recipient to respond to the complaint;

''(ii) provide the recipient with an opportunity for an informal hearing; and

''(iii) issue a written decision not later than 60 days after the parties have completed their submissions.

''(B) APPEALS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A decision by the Regional Administrator may be appealed to a panel comprised of the Federal Transit Administrator, personnel in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, and other persons with expertise in surface passenger transportation issues.

''(ii) STANDARD OF REVIEW.—The panel described in clause (i) shall consider the complaint de novo on all issues of fact and law.

''(iii) WRITTEN DECISION.—The appeals panel shall issue a written decision on an appeal not later than 60 days after the completion of submissions. This decision shall be the final order of the agency and subject to judicial review in district court.

''(C) CORRECTION.—If the Secretary determines that a violation of an agreement relating to the provision of charter service has occurred, the Secretary shall correct the violation under terms of the agreement.

''(D) REMEDIES.—The Secretary may issue orders to recipients to cease and desist in actions that violate the agreement, and such orders shall be binding upon the parties. In addition to any remedy spelled out in the agreement, if a recipient has failed to correct a violation within 60 days after the receipt of a notice of violation from the Secretary, the Secretary shall withhold from the recipient the lesser of—

''(i) 5 percent of the financial assistance available to the recipient under this chapter for the next fiscal year; or

''(ii) $200,000.

''(3) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004, the Secretary shall issue amended regulations that—

''(A) implement this subsection, as revised by such Act; and

''(B) impose restrictions, procedures, and remedies in connection with sightseeing service by a recipient.

''(4) PUBLIC NOTICE.—The Secretary shall make all written decisions, guidance, and other pertinent materials relating to the procedures in this subsection available to the public in electronic and other appropriate formats in a timely manner.'';

(5) by striking subsection (e);

(6) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (e);

(7) in subsection (e), as redesignated—

(A) by striking ''(1)'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—'';

(B) by striking paragraph (2);

(C) by striking ''This subsection'' and inserting the following:

''(2) EXCEPTIONS.—This subsection; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) PENALTY.—If the Secretary determines that an applicant, governmental authority, or publicly owned operator has violated the agreement required under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall bar the applicant, authority, or operator from receiving Federal transit assistance in an amount the Secretary determines to be appropriate.'';

(8) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

''(f) BOND PROCEEDS ELIGIBLE FOR LOCAL SHARE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a recipient of assistance under section 5307 or 5309, may use the proceeds from the issuance of revenue bonds as part of the local matching funds for a capital project.

''(2) REIMBURSEMENT BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary may reimburse an eligible recipient for deposits of bond proceeds in a debt service reserve that the recipient established pursuant to section 5302(a)(1)(K) from amounts made available to the recipient under section 5307 or 5309.'';

(9) in subsection (g)—

(A) by striking ''(f)'' each place it appears and inserting ''(e)''; and

(B) by striking ''103(e)(4) and 142 (a) or (c)'' each place it appears and inserting ''133 and 142'';

(10) by amending subsection (h) to read as follows:

''(h) TRANSFER OF LANDS OR INTERESTS IN LANDS OWNED BY THE UNITED STATES.—

(1) REQUEST BY SECRETARY.—If the Secretary determines that any part of the lands or interests in lands owned by the United States and made available as a result of a military base closure is necessary for transit purposes eligible under this chapter, including corridor preservation, the Secretary shall submit a request to the head of the Federal agency supervising the administration of such lands or interests in lands. Such request shall include a map showing the portion of such lands or interests in lands, which is desired to be transferred for public transportation purposes.

''(2) TRANSFER OF LAND.—If 4 months after submitting a request under paragraph (1), the Secretary does not receive a response from the Federal agency described in paragraph (1) that certifies that the proposed appropriation of land is contrary to the public interest or inconsistent with the purposes for which such land has been reserved, or if the head of such agency agrees to the utilization or transfer under conditions necessary for the adequate protection and utilization of the reserve, such land or interests in land may be utilized or transferred to a State, local governmental authority, or public transportation operator for such purposes and subject to the conditions specified by such agency.

''(3) REVERSION.—If at any time the lands or interests in land utilized or transferred under paragraph (2) are no longer needed for public transportation purposes, the State, local governmental authority, or public transportation operator that received the land shall notify to the Secretary, and such lands shall immediately revert to the control of the head of the Federal agency from which the land was originally transferred.'';

(11) in subsection (j)(5), by striking ''Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (Public Law 102–240, 105 Stat. 1914)'' and inserting ''Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004'';

(12) by amending subsection (l) to read as follows:

''(l) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—Section 1001 of title 18 applies to a certificate, submission, or statement provided under this chapter. The Secretary may terminate financial assistance under this chapter and seek reimbursement directly, or by offsetting amounts, available under this chapter, if the Secretary determines that a recipient of such financial assistance has made a false or fraudulent statement or related act in connection with a Federal transit program.'';

(13) in subsection (m), by inserting at the end the following: ''Requirements to perform preaward and postdelivery reviews of rolling stock purchases to ensure compliance with subsection (j) shall not apply to private nonprofit organizations or to grantees serving urbanized areas with a population of fewer than 1,000,000.'';

(14) in subsection (o), by striking ''the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 1998'' and inserting ''sections 181 through 188 of title 23''; and

(15) by adding at the end the following:

''(p) PROHIBITED USE OF FUNDS.—Grant funds received under this chapter may not be used to pay ordinary governmental or nonproject operating expenses.''.

SEC. 3023. SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5324 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 5324. Special provisions for capital projects

''(a) REAL PROPERTY AND RELOCATION SERVICES.—Whenever real property is acquired or furnished as a required contribution incident to a project, the Secretary shall not approve the application for financial assistance unless the applicant has made all payments and provided all assistance and assurances that are required of a State agency under sections 210 and 305 of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4630 and 4655). The Secretary must be advised of specific references to any State law that are believed to be an exception to section 301 or 302 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 4651 and 4652).

''(b) ADVANCE REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may participate in the acquisition of real property for any project that may use the property if the Secretary determines that external market forces are jeopardizing the potential use of the property for the project and if—

''(A) there are offers on the open real estate market to convey that property for a use that is incompatible with the project under study;

''(B) there is an imminent threat of development or redevelopment of the property for a use that is incompatible with the project under study;

''(C) recent appraisals reflect a rapid increase in the fair market value of the property;

''(D) the property, because it is located near an existing transportation facility, is likely to be developed and to be needed for a future transportation improvement; or

''(E) the property owner can demonstrate that, for health, safety, or financial reasons, retaining ownership of the property poses an undue hardship on the owner in comparison to other affected property owners and requests the acquisition to alleviate that hardship.

''(2) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS.—Property acquired in accordance with this subsection may not be developed in anticipation of the project until all required environmental reviews for the project have been completed.

''(3) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall limit the size and number of properties acquired under this subsection as necessary to avoid any prejudice to the Secretary's objective evaluation of project alternatives.

''(4) EXEMPTION.—An acquisition under this section shall be considered an exempt project under section 176 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7506).

''(c) RAILROAD CORRIDOR PRESERVATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may assist an applicant to acquire railroad right-of-way before the completion of the environmental reviews for any project that may use the right-of-way if the acquisition is otherwise permitted under Federal law. The Secretary may establish restrictions on such an acquisition as the Secretary determines to be necessary and appropriate.

''(2) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS.—Railroad right-of-way acquired under this subsection may not be developed in anticipation of the project until all required environmental reviews for the project have been completed.

''(d) CONSIDERATION OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL INTERESTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not approve an application for financial assistance for a capital project under this chapter unless the Secretary determines that the project has been developed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). The Secretary's findings under this paragraph shall be made a matter of public record.

''(2) COOPERATION AND CONSULTATION.—In carrying out section 5301(e), the Secretary shall cooperate and consult with the Secretary of the Interior and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency on each project that may have a substantial impact on the environment.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 5324 in the table of sections for chapter 53 is amended to read as follows:

''5324. Special provisions for capital projects.''.

SEC. 3024. CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5325 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 5325. Contract requirements

''(a) COMPETITION.—Recipients of assistance under this chapter shall conduct all procurement transactions in a manner that provides full and open competition as determined by the Secretary.

''(b) ARCHITECTURAL, ENGINEERING, AND DESIGN CONTRACTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A contract or requirement for program management, architectural engineering, construction management, a feasibility study, and preliminary engineering, design, architectural, engineering, surveying, mapping, or related services for a project for which Federal assistance is provided under this chapter shall be awarded in the same manner as a contract for architectural and engineering services is negotiated under chapter 11 of title 40, or an equivalent qualifications-based requirement of a State. This subsection does not apply to the extent a State has adopted or adopts by law a formal procedure for procuring those services.

''(2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—When awarding a contract described in paragraph (1), recipients of assistance under this chapter shall comply with the following requirements:

''(A) Any contract or subcontract awarded under this chapter shall be performed and audited in compliance with cost principles contained in part 31 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations (commonly known as the Federal Acquisition Regulation).

''(B) A recipient of funds under a contract or subcontract awarded under this chapter shall accept indirect cost rates established in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation for 1-year applicable accounting periods by a cognizant Federal or State government agency, if such rates are not currently under dispute.

''(C) After a firm's indirect cost rates are accepted under subparagraph (B), the recipient of the funds shall apply such rates for the purposes of contract estimation, negotiation, administration, reporting, and contract payment, and shall not be limited by administrative or de facto ceilings.

''(D) A recipient requesting or using the cost and rate data described in subparagraph (C) shall notify any affected firm before such request or use. Such data shall be confidential and shall not be accessible or provided by the group of agencies sharing cost data under this subparagraph, except by written permission of the audited firm. If prohibited by law, such cost and rate data shall not be disclosed under any circumstances.

''(c) EFFICIENT PROCUREMENT.—A recipient may award a procurement contract under this chapter to other than the lowest bidder if the award furthers an objective consistent with the purposes of this chapter, including improved long-term operating efficiency and lower long-term costs.

''(d) DESIGN-BUILD PROJECTS.—

''(1) DEFINED TERM.—As used in this subsection, the term 'design-build project'—

''(A) means a project under which a recipient enters into a contract with a seller, firm, or consortium of firms to design and build an operable segment of a public transportation system that meets specific performance criteria; and

''(B) may include an option to finance, or operate for a period of time, the system or segment or any combination of designing, building, operating, or maintaining such system or segment.

''(2) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CAPITAL COSTS.—Federal financial assistance under this chapter may be provided for the capital costs of a design-build project after the recipient complies with Government requirements.

''(e) ROLLING STOCK.—

''(1) ACQUISITION.—A recipient of financial assistance under this chapter may enter into a contract to expend that assistance to acquire rolling stock—

''(A) with a party selected through a competitive procurement process; or

''(B) based on—

''(i) initial capital costs; or

''(ii) performance, standardization, life cycle costs, and other factors.

''(2) MULTIYEAR CONTRACTS.—A recipient procuring rolling stock with Federal financial assistance under this chapter may make a multiyear contract, including options, to buy not more than 5 years of requirements for rolling stock and replacement parts. The Secretary shall allow a recipient to act on a cooperative basis to procure rolling stock under this paragraph and in accordance with other Federal procurement requirements.

''(f) EXAMINATION OF RECORDS.—Upon request, the Secretary and the Comptroller General, or any of their representatives, shall have access to and the right to examine and inspect all records, documents, and papers, including contracts, related to a project for which a grant is made under this chapter.

''(g) GRANT PROHIBITION.—A grant awarded under this chapter may not be used to support a procurement that uses an exclusionary or discriminatory specification.

''(h) BUS DEALER REQUIREMENTS.—No State law requiring buses to be purchased through in-State dealers shall apply to vehicles purchased with a grant under this chapter.

''(i) AWARDS TO RESPONSIBLE CONTRACTORS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Federal financial assistance under this chapter may be provided for contracts only if a recipient awards such contracts to responsible contractors possessing the ability to successfully perform under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement.

''(2) CRITERIA.—Before making an award to a contractor under paragraph (1), a recipient shall consider—

''(A) the integrity of the contractor;

''(B) the contractor's compliance with public policy;

''(C) the contractor's past performance, including the performance reported in the Contractor Performance Assessment Reports required under section 5309(m)(4); and

''(D) the contractor's financial and technical resources.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Chapter 53 is amended by striking section 5326.

SEC. 3025. PROJECT MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT AND REVIEW.

(a) PROJECT MANAGEMENT PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—Section 5327(a) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (11), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (12), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(13) safety and security management.''.

(b) LIMITATIONS ON USE OF AVAILABLE AMOUNTS.—Section 5327(c) is amended—

(1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not use more than 1 percent of amounts made available for a fiscal year to carry out any of sections 5307 through 5311, 5316, or 5317, or a project under the National Capital Transportation Act of 1969 (Public Law 91–143) to make a contract to oversee the construction of major projects under any of sections 5307 through 5311, 5316, or 5317 or under that Act.'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking ''(2)'' and inserting the following:

''(2) OTHER ALLOWABLE USES.—''; and

(B) by inserting ''and security'' after ''safety''; and

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking ''(3) The Government shall'' and inserting the following:

''(3) FEDERAL SHARE.—Federal funds shall be used to''.

SEC. 3026. PROJECT REVIEW.

Section 5328 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking ''(1) When the Secretary of Transportation allows a new fixed guideway project to advance into the alternatives analysis stage of project review, the Secretary shall cooperate with the applicant'' and inserting the following:

''(1) ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS.—The Secretary shall cooperate with an applicant undertaking an alternatives analysis under subsections (e) and (f) of section 5309'';

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking ''(2)'' and inserting the following:

''(2) ADVANCEMENT TO PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING STAGE.—''; and

(ii) by striking ''is consistent with'' and inserting ''meets the requirements of'';

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking ''(3)'' and inserting the following:

''(3) RECORD OF DECISION.—'';

(ii) by striking ''of construction''; and

(iii) by adding before the period at the end the following: ''if the Secretary determines that the project meets the requirements of subsection (e) or (f) of section 5309''; and

(D) by striking paragraph (4); and

(2) by striking subsection (c).

SEC. 3027. INVESTIGATIONS OF SAFETY AND SECURITY RISK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5329 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 5329. Investigation of safety hazards and security risks

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may conduct investigations into safety hazards and security risks associated with a condition in equipment, a facility, or an operation financed under this chapter to establish the nature and extent of the condition and how to eliminate, mitigate, or correct it.

''(b) SUBMISSION OF CORRECTIVE PLAN.—If the Secretary establishes that a safety hazard or security risk warrants further protective measures, the Secretary shall require the local governmental authority receiving amounts under this chapter to submit a plan for eliminating, mitigating, or correcting it.

''(c) WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS.—Financial assistance under this chapter, in an amount to be determined by the Secretary, may be withheld until a plan is approved and carried out.

''(d) PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SECURITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004, the Secretary shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Secretary of Homeland Security to define and clarify the respective roles and responsibilities of the Department of Transportation and the Department of Homeland Security relating to public transportation security.

''(2) CONTENTS.—The memorandum of understanding described in paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) establish national security standards for public transportation agencies;

''(B) establish funding priorities for grants from the Department of Homeland Security to public transportation agencies;

''(C) create a method of coordination with public transportation agencies on security matters; and

''(D) address any other issues determined to be appropriate by the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 5329 in the table of sections for chapter 53 is amended to read as follows:

''5329. Investigation of safety hazards and security risks.''.

SEC. 3028. STATE SAFETY OVERSIGHT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5330 is amended—

(1) by amending the heading to read as follows:

''§ 5330. Withholding amounts for noncompliance with State safety oversight requirements'';

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

''(a) APPLICATION.—This section shall only apply to—

''(1) States that have rail fixed guideway public transportation systems that are not subject to regulation by the Federal Railroad Administration; and

''(2) States that are designing rail fixed guideway public transportation systems that will not be subjected to regulation by the Federal Railroad Administration.'';

(3) in subsection (d), by striking ''affected States'' and inserting the following: ''affected States—

''(1) shall ensure uniform safety standards and enforcement; or

''(2) may designate''; and

(4) in subsection (f), by striking ''Not later than December 18, 1992, the'' and inserting ''The''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 5330 in the table of sections for chapter 53 is amended to read as follows:

''5330. Withholding amounts for noncompliance with State safety oversight requirements.''.

SEC. 3029. SENSITIVE SECURITY INFORMATION.

Section 40119(b) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(C), by inserting '', transportation facilities or infrastructure, or transportation employees'' before the period at the end; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) A State or local government may not enact, enforce, prescribe, issue, or continue in effect any law, regulation, standard, or order to the extent it is inconsistent with this section or regulations prescribed under this section.''.

SEC. 3030. TERRORIST ATTACKS AND OTHER ACTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1993 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''mass'' each place it appears and inserting ''public'';

(2) in subsection (a)(5), by inserting ''controlling,'' after ''operating''; and

(3) in subsection (c)(5), by striking ''5302(a)(7) of title 49, United States Code,'' and inserting ''5302(a) of title 49,''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for chapter 97 of title 18, United States Code is amended by amending the item related to section 1993 to read as follows:

''1993. Terrorist attacks and other acts of violence against public transportation systems.''.

SEC. 3031. CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND ALCOHOL MISUSE TESTING.

Section 5331 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3), by inserting before the period at the end the following: ''or sections 2303a, 7101(i), or 7302(e) of title 46. The Secretary may also decide that a form of public transportation is covered adequately, for employee alcohol and controlled substances testing purposes, under the alcohol and controlled substance statutes or regulations of an agency within the Department of Transportation or other Federal agency''; and

(2) in subsection (f), by striking paragraph (3).

SEC. 3032. EMPLOYEE PROTECTIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

Section 5333(b) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting '': Provided, That—

''(A) the protective period shall not exceed 4 years; and

''(B) the separation allowance shall not exceed 12 months.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) An arrangement under this subsection shall not guarantee continuation of employment as a result of a change in private contractors through competitive bidding unless such continuation is otherwise required under subparagraph (A), (B), or (D) of paragraph (2).

''(5) Fair and equitable arrangements to protect the interests of employees utilized by the Secretary of Labor for assistance to purchase like-kind equipment or facilities, and amendments to existing assistance agreements, shall be certified without referral.

''(6) Nothing in this subsection shall affect the level of protection provided to freight railroad employees.''.

SEC. 3033. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES.

Section 5334 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''5309–5311 of this title'' and all that follows and inserting ''5309 through 5311;'';

(B) in paragraph (9), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(C) in paragraph (10), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(D) by inserting at the end the following:

''(11) issue regulations as necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.'';

(2) by redesignating subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j) as subsections (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), and (k), respectively;

(3) by adding after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) PROHIBITIONS AGAINST REGULATING OPERATIONS AND CHARGES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as directed by the President for purposes of national defense or in the event of a national or regional emergency, the Secretary may not regulate—

''(A) the operation, routes, or schedules of a public transportation system for which a grant is made under this chapter; or

''(B) the rates, fares, tolls, rentals, or other charges prescribed by any public or private transportation provider.

''(2) COMPLIANCE WITH AGREEMENT.—Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the Secretary from requiring a recipient of funds under this chapter to comply with the terms and conditions of its Federal assistance agreement.''; and

(4) in subsection (j)(1), as redesignated, by striking ''carry out section 5312(a) and (b)(1) of this title'' and inserting ''advise and assist the Secretary in carrying out section 5312(a)''.

SEC. 3034. REPORTS AND AUDITS.

Section 5335 is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b); and

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''(1)''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''(2) The Secretary may make a grant under section 5307 of this title'' and inserting the following:

''(b) REPORTING AND UNIFORM SYSTEMS.—The Secretary may award a grant under section 5307 or 5311''.

SEC. 3035. APPORTIONMENTS OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR FORMULA GRANTS.

Section 5336 is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (d);

(2) by striking subsection (h);

(3) by striking subsection (k);

(4) by redesignating subsections (a) through (c) as subsections (b) through (d), respectively;

(5) by adding before subsection (b), as redesignated, the following:

''(a) APPORTIONMENTS.—Of the amounts made available for each fiscal year under subsections (a)(1)(C)(vi) and (b)(2)(L) of section 5338—

''(1) there shall be apportioned, in fiscal year 2005 and each fiscal year thereafter, $35,000,000 to certain urbanized areas with populations of less than 200,000 in accordance with subsection (k); and

''(2) any amount not apportioned under paragraph (1) shall be apportioned to urbanized areas in accordance with subsections (b) through (d).'';

(6) in subsection (b), as redesignated—

(A) by striking ''Of the amount made available or appropriated under section 5338(a) of this title'' and inserting ''Of the amount apportioned under subsection (a)(3)''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''subsections (b) and (c) of this section'' and inserting ''subsections (c) and (d)'';

(7) in subsection (c)(2), as redesignated, by striking ''subsection (a)(2) of this section'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(2)'';

(8) in subsection (d), as redesignated, by striking ''subsection (a)(2) of this section'' and inserting ''subsection (b)(2)'';

(9) in subsection (e)(1), by striking ''subsections (a) and (h)(2) of section 5338 of this title'' and inserting ''subsections (a) and (b) of section 5338'';

(10) in subsection (g), by striking ''subsection (a)(1) of this section'' each place it appears and inserting ''subsection (b)(1)''; and

(11) by adding at the end the following:

''(k) SMALL TRANSIT INTENSIVE CITIES FACTORS.—The amount apportioned under subsection (a)(1) shall be apportioned to urbanized areas as follows:

''(1) The Secretary shall calculate a factor equal to the sum of revenue vehicle hours operated within urbanized areas with a population of between 200,000 and 1,000,000 divided by the sum of the population of all such urbanized areas.

''(2) The Secretary shall designate as eligible for an apportionment under this subsection all urbanized areas with a population of under 200,000 for which the number of revenue vehicle hours operated within the urbanized area divided by the population of the urbanized area exceeds the factor calculated under paragraph (1).

''(3) For each urbanized area qualifying for an apportionment under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall calculate an amount equal to the product of the population of that urbanized area and the factor calculated under paragraph (1).

''(4) For each urbanized area qualifying for an apportionment under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall calculate an amount equal to the difference between the number of revenue vehicle hours within that urbanized area less the amount calculated in paragraph (3).

''(5) Each urbanized area qualifying for an apportionment under paragraph (2) shall receive an amount equal to the amount to be apportioned under this subsection multiplied by the amount calculated for that urbanized area under paragraph (4) divided by the sum of the amounts calculated under paragraph (4) for all urbanized areas qualifying for an apportionment under paragraph (2).

''(l) STUDY ON INCENTIVES IN FORMULA PROGRAMS.—

''(1) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study to assess the feasibility and appropriateness of developing and implementing an incentive funding system under sections 5307 and 5311 for operators of public transportation.

''(2) REPORT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004, the Secretary shall submit a report on the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1) to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

''(B) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall include—

''(i) an analysis of the availability of appropriate measures to be used as a basis for the distribution of incentive payments;

''(ii) the optimal number and size of any incentive programs;

''(iii) what types of systems should compete for various incentives;

''(iv) how incentives should be distributed; and

''(v) the likely effects of the incentive funding system.''.

SEC. 3036. APPORTIONMENTS FOR FIXED GUIDEWAY MODERNIZATION.

Section 5337 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''for each of fiscal years 1998 through 2003''; and

(2) by striking ''section 5336(b)(2)(A)'' each place it appears and inserting ''section 5336(c)(2)(A)''.

SEC. 3037. AUTHORIZATIONS.

Section 5338 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 5338. Authorizations

''(a) FISCAL YEAR 2004.—

''(1) FORMULA GRANTS.—

''(A) TRUST FUND.—For fiscal year 2004, $3,053,079,920 shall be available from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund to carry out sections 5307, 5309, 5310, and 5311 of this chapter and section 3038 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (49 U.S.C. 5310 note).

''(B) GENERAL FUND.—In addition to the amounts made available under subparagraph (A), there are authorized to be appropriated $763,269,980 for fiscal year 2004 to carry out sections 5307, 5309, 5310, and 5311 of this chapter and section 3038 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (49 U.S.C. 5310 note).

''(C) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts made available or appropriated under this paragraph—

''(i) $4,821,335 shall be available to the Alaska Railroad for improvements to its passenger operations under section 5307;

''(ii) $6,908,995 shall be available to provide over-the-road bus accessibility grants under section 3038 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (49 U.S.C. 5310 note);

''(iii) $90,117,950 shall be available to provide transportation services to elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities under section 5310;

''(iv) $239,188,058 shall be available to provide financial assistance for other than urbanized areas under section 5311;

''(v) $3,425,608,562 shall be available to provide financial assistance for urbanized areas under section 5307; and

''(vi) $49,705,000 shall be available to provide financial assistance for buses and bus facilities under section 5309..

''(2) JOB ACCESS AND REVERSE COMMUTE.—

''(A) TRUST FUND.—For fiscal year 2004, $99,410,000 shall be available from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund to carry out section 3037 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (49 U.S.C. 5309 note).

''(B) GENERAL FUND.—In addition to the amounts made available under paragraph (A), there are authorized to be appropriated $24,852,500 for fiscal year 2004 to carry out section 3037 of the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century (49 U.S.C. 5309 note).

''(3) CAPITAL PROGRAM GRANTS.—

''(A) TRUST FUND.—For fiscal year 2004, $2,495,191,000 shall be available from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund to carry out section 5309.

''(B) GENERAL FUND.—In addition to the amounts made available under subparagraph (A), there are authorized to be appropriated $623,797,750 for fiscal year 2004 to carry out section 5309.

''(4) PLANNING.—

''(A) TRUST FUND.—For fiscal year 2004, $58,254,260 shall be available from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund to carry out section 5308.

''(B) GENERAL FUND.—In addition to the amounts made available under subparagraph (A), there are authorized to be appropriated $14,315,040 for fiscal year 2004 to carry out section 5308.

''(C) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts made available or appropriated under this paragraph—

''(i) 82.72 percent shall be allocated for metropolitan planning under section 5308(c); and

''(ii) 17.28 percent shall be allocated for State planning under section 5308(d).

''(5) RESEARCH.—

''(A) TRUST FUND.—For fiscal year 2004, $41,951,020 shall be available from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund to carry out sections 5311(b), 5312, 5313, 5314, 5315, and 5322.

''(B) GENERAL FUND.—In addition to the amounts made available under subparagraph (A), there are authorized to be appropriated $10,736,280 for fiscal year 2004 to carry out sections 5311(b), 5312, 5313, 5314, 5315, and 5322.

''(C) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the funds made available or appropriated under this paragraph—

''(i) not less than $3,976,400 shall be available to carry out programs of the National Transit Institute under section 5315;

''(ii) not less than $5,219,025 shall be available to carry out section 5311(b)(2);

''(iii) not less than $8,201,325 shall be available to carry out section 5313; and

''(iv) the remainder shall be available to carry out national research and technology programs under sections 5312, 5314, and 5322.

''(6) UNIVERSITY TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH.—

''(A) TRUST FUND.—For fiscal year 2004, $4,771,680 shall be available from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund to carry out sections 5505 and 5506.

''(B) GENERAL FUND.—In addition to amounts made available under subparagraph (A), there are authorized to be appropriated $1,192,920 for fiscal year 2004 to carry out sections 5505 and 5506.

''(C) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts made available or appropriated under this paragraph—

''(i) $1,988,200 shall be available for grants under 5506(f)(5) to the institution identified in section 5505(j)(3)(E), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Federal Public Transportation Act of 2004;

''(ii) $1,988,200 shall be available for grants under section 5505(d) to the institution identified in section 5505(j)(4)(A), as in effect on the date specified in clause (i); and

''(iii) $1,988,200 shall be available for grants under section 5505(d) to the institution identified in section 5505(j)(4)(F), as in effect on the date specified in subclause (I).

''(C) SPECIAL RULE.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit the transportation research conducted by the centers receiving financial assistance under this section.

''(7) ADMINISTRATION.—

''(A) TRUST FUND.—For fiscal year 2004, $60,043,640 shall be available from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund to carry out section 5334.

''(B) GENERAL FUND.—In addition to amounts made available under subparagraph (A), there are authorized to be appropriated $15,010,910 for fiscal year 2004 to carry out section 5334.

''(8) GRANTS AS CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS.—

''(A) GRANTS FINANCED FROM HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.—A grant or contract that is approved by the Secretary and financed with amounts made available under paragraph (1)(A), (2)(A), (3)(A), (4)(A), (5)(A), (6)(A), or (7)(A) is a contractual obligation of the United States Government to pay the Federal share of the cost of the project.

''(B) GRANTS FINANCED FROM GENERAL FUND.—A grant or contract that is approved by the Secretary and financed with amounts appropriated in advance under paragraph (1)(B), (2)(B), (3)(B), (4)(B), (5)(B), (6)(B), or (7)(B) is a contractual obligation of the United States Government to pay the Federal share of the cost of the project only to the extent that amounts are appropriated for such purpose by an Act of Congress.

''(9) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts made available or appropriated under paragraphs (1) through (6) shall remain available until expended.''.

''(b) FORMULA GRANTS AND RESEARCH.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There shall be available from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund to carry out sections 5307, 5308, 5309, 5310 through 5316, 5322, 5335, 5340, and 5505 of this title, and sections 3037 and 3038 of the Federal Transit Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 387 et seq.)—

''(A) $6,262,600,000 for fiscal year 2005;

''(B) $6,577,629,000 for fiscal year 2006;

''(C) $6,950,400,000 for fiscal year 2007;

''(D) $7,594,760,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

''(E) $8,275,320,000 for fiscal year 2009.

''(2) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts made available under paragraph (1) for each fiscal year—

''(A) 0.092 percent shall be available for grants to the Alaska Railroad under section 5307 for improvements to its passenger operations;

''(B) 1.75 percent shall be available to carry out section 5308;

''(C) 2.05 percent shall be available to provide financial assistance for job access and reverse commute projects under section 3037 of the Federal Transit Act of 1998 (49 U.S.C. 5309 note);

''(D) 3.00 percent shall be available to provide financial assistance for services for elderly persons and persons with disabilities under section 5310;

''(E) 0.125 percent shall be available to carry out section 3038 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (49 U.S.C. 5310 note);

''(F) 6.25 percent shall be available to provide financial assistance for other than urbanized areas under section 5311;

''(G) 0.89 percent shall be available to carry out transit cooperative research programs under section 5313, the National Transit Institute under section 5315, university research centers under section 5505, and national research programs under sections 5312, 5313, 5314, and 5322, of which—

''(i) 17.0 percent shall be allocated to carry out transit cooperative research programs under section 5313;

''(ii) 7.5 percent shall be allocated to carry out programs under the National Transit Institute under section 5315, including not more than $1,000,000 to carry out section 5315(a)(16);

''(iii) 11.0 percent shall be allocated to carry out the university centers program under section 5505; and

''(iv) any funds made available under this subparagraph that are not allocated under clauses (i) through (iii) shall be allocated to carry out national research programs under sections 5312, 5313, 5314, and 5322;

''(H) $25,000,000 shall be available for each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2009 to carry out section 5316;

''(I) there shall be available to carry out section 5335—

''(i) $3,700,000 in fiscal year 2005;

''(ii) $3,900,000 in fiscal year 2006;

''(iii) $4,200,000 in fiscal year 2007;

''(iv) $4,600,000 in fiscal year 2008; and

''(v) $5,000,000 in fiscal year 2009;

''(J) 6.25 percent shall be allocated in accordance with section 5340 to provide financial assistance for urbanized areas under section 5307 and other than urbanized areas under section 5311; and

''(K) 22.0 percent shall be allocated in accordance with section 5337 to provide financial assistance under section 5309(i)(3); and

''(L) any amounts not made available under subparagraphs (A) through (K) shall be allocated in accordance with section 5336 to provide financial assistance for urbanized areas under section 5307.

''(3) UNIVERSITY CENTERS PROGRAM.—

''(A) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts allocated under paragraph (2)(G)(iii), $1,000,000 shall be available in each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2009 for Morgan State University to provide transportation research, training, and curriculum development.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The university specified under subparagraph (A) shall be considered a University Transportation Center under section 510 of title 23, and shall be subject to the requirements under subsections (c), (d), (e), and (f) of such section.

''(C) REPORT.—In addition to the report required under section 510(e)(3) of title 23, the university specified under subparagraph (A) shall annually submit a report to the Secretary that describes the university's contribution to public transportation.

''(4) BUS GRANTS.—In addition to the amounts made available under paragraph (1), there shall be available from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund to carry out section 5309(i)(2)(B)—

''(A) $839,829,000 for fiscal year 2005;

''(B) $882,075,000 for fiscal year 2006;

''(C) $932,064,000 for fiscal year 2007;

''(D) $1,018,474,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

''(E) $1,109,739,000 for fiscal year 2009.

''(c) MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 5309(i)(2)(A)—

''(1) $1,461,072,000 for fiscal year 2005;

''(2) $1,534,568,000 for fiscal year 2006;

''(3) $1,621,536,000 for fiscal year 2007;

''(4) $1,771,866,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

''(5) $1,930,641,000 for fiscal year 2009.

''(d) ADMINISTRATION.—There shall be available from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund to carry out section 5334—

''(1) $86,500,000 for fiscal year 2005;

''(2) $90,851,000 for fiscal year 2006;

''(3) $96,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;

''(4) $104,900,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

''(5) $114,300,000 for fiscal year 2009.

''(e) GRANTS AS CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS.—

''(1) MASS TRANSIT ACCOUNT FUNDS.—A grant or contract approved by the Secretary that is financed with amounts made available under subsection (b)(1) or (d) is a contractual obligation of the United States Government to pay the Federal share of the cost of the project.

''(2) APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—A grant or contract approved by the Secretary that is financed

with amounts made available under subsection (b)(2) or (c) is a contractual obligation of the United States Government to pay the Federal share of the cost of the project only to the extent that amounts are appropriated in advance for such purpose by an Act of Congress.

''(f) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts made available by or appropriated under subsections (b) and (c) shall remain available until expended.''.

SEC. 3038. APPORTIONMENTS BASED ON GROWING STATES FORMULA FACTORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 53 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 5340. Apportionments based on growing States and high density State formula factors

''(a) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts made available for each fiscal year under section 5338(b)(2)(J), the Secretary shall apportion—

''(1) 50 percent to States and urbanized areas in accordance with subsection (b); and

''(2) 50 percent to States and urbanized areas in accordance with subsection (c).

''(b) GROWING STATE APPORTIONMENTS.—

''(1) APPORTIONMENT AMONG STATES.—The amounts apportioned under paragraph (a)(1) shall provide each State with an amount equal to the total amount apportioned multiplied by a ratio equal to the population of that State forecast for the year that is 15 years after the most recent decennial census, divided by the total population of all States forecast for the year that is 15 years after the most recent decennial census. Such forecast shall be based on the population trend for each State between the most recent decennial census and the most recent estimate of population made by the Secretary of Commerce.

''(2) APPORTIONMENTS BETWEEN URBANIZED AREAS AND OTHER THAN URBANIZED AREAS IN EACH STATE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall apportion amounts to each State under paragraph (1) so that urbanized areas in that State receive an amount equal to the amount apportioned to that State multiplied by a ratio equal to the sum of the forecast population of all urbanized areas in that State divided by the total forecast population of that State. In making the apportionment under this subparagraph, the Secretary shall utilize any available forecasts made by the State. If no forecasts are available, the Secretary shall utilize data on urbanized areas and total population from the most recent decennial census.

''(B) REMAINING AMOUNTS.—Amounts remaining for each State after apportionment under subparagraph (A) shall be apportioned to that State and added to the amount made available for grants under section 5311.

''(3) APPORTIONMENTS AMONG URBANIZED AREAS IN EACH STATE.—The Secretary shall apportion amounts made available to urbanized areas in each State under subsection (b)(2)(A) so that each urbanized area receives an amount equal to the amount apportioned under subsection (b)(2)(A) multiplied by a ratio equal to the population of each urbanized area divided by the sum of populations of all urbanized areas in the State. Amounts apportioned to each urbanized area shall be added to amounts apportioned to that urbanized area under section 5336, and made available for grants under section 5307.

''(c) HIGH DENSITY STATE APPORTIONMENTS.—Amounts to be apportioned under subsection (a)(2) shall be apportioned as follows:

''(1) ELIGIBLE STATES.—The Secretary shall designate as eligible for an apportionment under this subsection all States with a population density in excess of 370 persons per square mile.

''(2) STATE URBANIZED LAND FACTOR.—For each State qualifying for an apportionment under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall calculate an amount equal to the product of the urban land area of urbanized areas in the State times 370 persons per square mile.

''(3) STATE APPORTIONMENT FACTOR.—For each State qualifying for an apportionment under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall calculate an amount equal to the difference between the total population of the State less the amount calculated in paragraph (2).

''(4) STATE APPORTIONMENT.—Each State qualifying for an apportionment under paragraph (1) shall receive an amount equal to the amount to be apportioned under this subsection multiplied by the amount calculated for the State under paragraph (3) divided by the sum of the amounts calculated under paragraph (3) for all States qualifying for an apportionment under paragraph (1).

''(5) APPORTIONMENTS BETWEEN URBANIZED AREAS AND OTHER THAN URBANIZED AREAS IN EACH STATE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall apportion amounts apportioned to each State under paragraph (4) so that urbanized areas in that State receive an amount equal to the amount apportioned to that State multiplied by a ratio equal to the sum of the population of all urbanized areas in that State divided by the total population of that State.

''(B) REMAINING AMOUNTS.—Amounts remaining for each State after apportionment under subparagraph (a) shall be apportioned to that State and added to the amount made available for grants under section 5311.

''(6) APPORTIONMENTS AMONG URBANIZED AREAS IN EACH STATE.—The Secretary shall apportion amounts made available to urbanized areas in each State under subsection (c)(5)(A) so that each urbanized area receives an amount equal to the amount apportioned under subsection (c)(5)(A) multiplied by a ratio equal to the population of each urbanized area divided by the sum of populations of all urbanized areas in the State. Amounts apportioned to each urbanized area shall be added to amounts apportioned to that urbanized area under section 5336, and made available for grants under section 5307.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 53 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''5340. Apportionments based on growing States and high density States formula factors.''.

SEC. 3039. JOB ACCESS AND REVERSE COMMUTE GRANTS.

Section 3037 of the Federal Transit Act of 1998 (49 U.S.C. 5309 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''means an individual'' and inserting the following: ''means—

''(A) an individual''; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or

''(B) an individual who is eligible for assistance under the State program of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et. seq.) in the State in which the recipient of a grant under this section is located.''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''development of'' each place it appears and inserting ''development and provision of'';

(2) in subsection (i), by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

''(2) COORDINATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall coordinate activities under this section with related activities under programs of other Federal departments and agencies.

''(B) CERTIFICATION.—A recipient of funds under this section shall certify that—

''(i) the project has been derived from a locally developed, coordinated public transit human services transportation plan; and

''(ii) the plan was developed through a process that included representatives of public, private, and nonprofit transportation and human services providers and participation by the public.'';

(3) by amending subsection (j) to read as follows:

''(j) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—

''(A) URBANIZED AREAS.—A grant awarded under this section to a public agency or private company engaged in public transportation in an urbanized area shall be subject to the all of the terms and conditions to which a grant awarded under section 5307 of title 49, United States Code, is subject, to the extent the Secretary considers appropriate.

''(B) OTHER THAN URBANIZED AREAS.—A grant awarded under this section to a public agency or a private company engaged in public transportation in an area other than urbanized areas shall be subject to all of the terms and conditions to which a grant awarded under section 5311 of title 49, United States Code, is subject, to the extent the Secretary considers appropriate.

''(C) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.—A grant awarded under this section to a private nonprofit organization shall be subject to all of the terms and conditions to which a grant made under section 5310 of title 49, United States Code, is subject, to the extent the Secretary considers appropriate.

''(2) SPECIAL WARRANTY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 5333(b) of title 49, United States Code, shall apply to grants under this section if the Secretary of Labor utilizes a Special Warranty that provides a fair and equitable arrangement to protect the interests of employees.

''(B) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the applicability of the Special Warranty under subparagraph (A) for private non-profit recipients on a case-by-case basis as the Secretary considers appropriate.''; and

(4) by striking subsections (k) and (l).

SEC. 3040. OVER-THE-ROAD BUS ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAM.

(a) SECTION HEADING.—The section heading for section 3038 of the Federal Transit Act of 1998 (49 U.S.C. 5310 note), is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 3038. OVER-THE-ROAD BUS ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAM.''.

(b) FUNDING.—Section 3038(g) of the Federal Transit Act of 1998 (49 U.S.C. 5310 note) is amended to read as follows:

''(g) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made available for each fiscal year under subsections (a)(1)(C)(iii) and (b)(2)(E) of section 5338 of title 49, United States Code—

''(1) 75 percent shall be available, and shall remain available until expended, for operators of over-the-road buses, used substantially or exclusively in intercity, fixed-route over-the-road bus service, to finance the incremental capital and training costs of the Department of Transportation's final rule regarding accessibility of over-the-road buses; and

''(2) 25 percent shall be available, and shall remain available until expended, for operators of over-the-road bus service not described in paragraph (1), to finance the incremental capital and training costs of the Department of Transportation's final rule regarding accessibility of over-the-road buses.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 3038 in the table of contents for the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (Public Law 105–178) is amended to read as follows:

''Sec. 3038. Over-the-road bus accessibility program.''.

SEC. 3041. ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION IN PARKS AND PUBLIC LANDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 53 is amended by inserting after section 5315 the following:

''§ 5316. Alternative transportation in parks and public lands

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) AUTHORIZATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, may

award a grant or enter into a contract, cooperative agreement, interagency agreement, intraagency agreement, or other transaction to carry out a qualified project under this section to enhance the protection of America's National Parks and public lands and increase the enjoyment of those visiting the parks and public lands by ensuring access to all, including persons with disabilities, improving conservation and park and public land opportunities in urban areas through partnering with state and local governments, and improving park and public land transportation infrastructure.

''(B) CONSULTATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES.—To the extent that projects are proposed or funded in eligible areas that are not within the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior, the Secretary of the Interior shall consult with the heads of the relevant Federal land management agencies in carrying out the responsibilities under this section.

''(2) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant, cooperative agreement, interagency agreement, intraagency agreement, or other transaction for a qualified project under this section shall be available to finance the leasing of equipment and facilities for use in public transportation, subject to any regulation that the Secretary may prescribe limiting the grant or agreement to leasing arrangements that are more cost-effective than purchase or construction.

''(b) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the following definitions shall apply:

''(1) ELIGIBLE AREA.—The term 'eligible area' means any federally owned or managed park, refuge, or recreational area that is open to the general public, including—

''(A) a unit of the National Park System;

''(B) a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System;

''(C) a recreational area managed by the Bureau of Land Management; and

''(D) a recreation area managed by the Bureau of Reclamation.

''(2) FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—The term 'Federal land management agency' means a Federal agency that manages an eligible area.

''(3) ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION.—The term 'alternative transportation' means transportation by bus, rail, or any other publicly or privately owned conveyance that provides to the public general or special service on a regular basis, including sightseeing service.

''(4) QUALIFIED PARTICIPANT.—The term 'qualified participant' means—

''(A) a Federal land management agency; or

''(B) a State, tribal, or local governmental authority with jurisdiction over land in the vicinity of an eligible area acting with the consent of the Federal land management agency, alone or in partnership with a Federal land management agency or other Governmental or nongovernmental participant.

''(5) QUALIFIED PROJECT.—The term 'qualified project' means a planning or capital project in or in the vicinity of an eligible area that—

''(A) is an activity described in section 5302, 5303, 5304, 5308, or 5309(a)(1)(A);

''(B) involves—

''(i) the purchase of rolling stock that incorporates clean fuel technology or the replacement of buses of a type in use on the date of enactment of this section with clean fuel vehicles; or

''(ii) the deployment of alternative transportation vehicles that introduce innovative technologies or methods;

''(C) relates to the capital costs of coordinating the Federal land management agency public transportation systems with other public transportation systems;

''(D) provides a nonmotorized transportation system (including the provision of facilities for pedestrians, bicycles, and nonmotorized watercraft);

''(E) provides waterborne access within or in the vicinity of an eligible area, as appropriate to and consistent with this section; or

''(F) is any other alternative transportation project that—

''(i) enhances the environment;

''(ii) prevents or mitigates an adverse impact on a natural resource;

''(iii) improves Federal land management agency resource management;

''(iv) improves visitor mobility and accessibility and the visitor experience;

''(v) reduces congestion and pollution (including noise pollution and visual pollution); or

''(vi) conserves a natural, historical, or cultural resource (excluding rehabilitation or restoration of a non-transportation facility).

''(c) FEDERAL AGENCY COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.—The Secretary shall develop cooperative arrangements with the Secretary of the Interior that provide for—

''(1) technical assistance in alternative transportation;

''(2) interagency and multidisciplinary teams to develop Federal land management agency alternative transportation policy, procedures, and coordination; and

''(3) the development of procedures and criteria relating to the planning, selection, and funding of qualified projects and the implementation and oversight of the program of projects in accordance with this section.

''(d) LIMITATION ON USE OF AVAILABLE AMOUNTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, may use not more than 10 percent of the amount made available for a fiscal year under section 5338(a)(2)(I) to carry out planning, research, and technical assistance under this section, including the development of technology appropriate for use in a qualified project.

''(2) ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS.—Amounts made available under this subsection are in addition to amounts otherwise available to the Secretary to carry out planning, research, and technical assistance under this title or any other provision of law.

''(3) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—No qualified project shall receive more than 12 percent of the total amount made available to carry out this section under section 5338(a)(2)(I) for any fiscal year.

''(e) PLANNING PROCESS.—In undertaking a qualified project under this section,

''(1) if the qualified participant is a Federal land management agency—

''(A) the Secretary, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall develop transportation planning procedures that are consistent with—

''(i) the metropolitan planning provisions under section 5303 of this title;

''(ii) the statewide planning provisions under section 5304 of this title; and

''(iii) the public participation requirements under section 5307(e); and

''(B) in the case of a qualified project that is at a unit of the National Park system, the planning process shall be consistent with the general management plans of the unit of the National Park system; and

''(2) if the qualified participant is a State or local governmental authority, or more than one State or local governmental authority in more than one State, the qualified participant shall—

''(A) comply with the metropolitan planning provisions under section 5303 of this title;

''(B) comply with the statewide planning provisions under section 5304 of this title;

''(C) comply with the public participation requirements under section 5307(e) of this title; and

''(D) consult with the appropriate Federal land management agency during the planning process.

''(f) COST SHARING.—

''(1) The Secretary, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall establish the agency share of net project cost to be provided under this section to a qualified participant.

''(2) In establishing the agency share of net project cost to be provided under this section, the Secretary shall consider—

''(A) visitation levels and the revenue derived from user fees in the eligible area in which the qualified project is carried out;

''(B) the extent to which the qualified participant coordinates with a public transportation authority or private entity engaged in public transportation;

''(C) private investment in the qualified project, including the provision of contract services, joint development activities, and the use of innovative financing mechanisms;

''(D) the clear and direct benefit to the qualified participant; and

''(E) any other matters that the Secretary considers appropriate to carry out this section.

''(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, Federal funds appropriated to any Federal land management agency may be counted toward the non-agency share of the net project cost of a qualified project.

''(g) SELECTION OF QUALIFIED PROJECTS.—

''(1) The Secretary of the Interior, after consultation with and in cooperation with the Secretary, shall determine the final selection and funding of an annual program of qualified projects in accordance with this section.

''(2) In determining whether to include a project in the annual program of qualified projects, the Secretary of the Interior shall consider—

''(A) the justification for the qualified project, including the extent to which the qualified project would conserve resources, prevent or mitigate adverse impact, and enhance the environment;

''(B) the location of the qualified project, to ensure that the selected qualified projects—

''(i) are geographically diverse nationwide; and

''(ii) include qualified projects in eligible areas located in both urban areas and rural areas;

''(C) the size of the qualified project, to ensure that there is a balanced distribution;

''(D) the historical and cultural significance of a qualified project;

''(E) safety;

''(F) the extent to which the qualified project would-

''(i) enhance livable communities;

''(ii) reduce pollution (including noise pollution, air pollution, and visual pollution);

''(iii) reduce congestion; and

''(iv) improve the mobility of people in the most efficient manner; and

''(G) any other matters that the Secretary considers appropriate to carry out this section, including—

''(i) visitation levels;

''(ii) the use of innovative financing or joint development strategies; and

''(iii) coordination with gateway communities.

''(h) QUALIFIED PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN ADVANCE.—

''(1) When a qualified participant carries out any part of a qualified project without assistance under this section in accordance with all applicable procedures and requirements, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, may pay the share of the net capital project cost of a qualified project if—

''(A) the qualified participant applies for the payment;

''(B) the Secretary approves the payment; and

''(C) before carrying out that part of the qualified project, the Secretary approves the plans and specifications in the same manner as plans and specifications are approved for other projects assisted under this section.

''(2)(A) The cost of carrying out part of a qualified project under paragraph (1) includes the amount of interest earned and payable on bonds issued by a State or local governmental authority, to the extent that proceeds of the bond are expended in carrying out that part.

''(B) The rate of interest under this paragraph may not exceed the most favorable rate reasonably available for the qualified project at the time of borrowing.

''(C) The qualified participant shall certify, in a manner satisfactory to the Secretary, that the qualified participant has exercised reasonable diligence in seeking the most favorable interest rate.

''(i) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—

''(1) SECTION 5307.—A qualified participant under this section shall be subject to the requirements of sections 5307 and 5333(a) to the extent the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''(2) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—A qualified participant under this section is subject to any other terms, conditions, requirements, and provisions that the Secretary determines to be appropriate to carry out this section, including requirements for the distribution of proceeds on disposition of real property and equipment resulting from a qualified project assisted under this section.

''(3) PROJECT MANAGEMENT PLAN.—If the amount of assistance anticipated to be required for a qualified project under this section is not less than $25,000,000—

''(A) the qualified project shall, to the extent the Secretary considers appropriate, be carried out through a full funding grant agreement, in accordance with section 5309(g); and

''(B) the qualified participant shall prepare a project management plan in accordance with section 5327(a).

''(i) ASSET MANAGEMENT.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, may transfer the interest of the Department of Transportation in, and control over, all facilities and equipment acquired under this section to a qualified participant for use and disposition in accordance with any property management regulations that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''(j) COORDINATION OF RESEARCH AND DEPLOYMENT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES.—

''(1) The Secretary, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior, may undertake, or make grants, cooperative agreements, contracts (including agreements with departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the Federal Government) or other transactions for research, development, and deployment of new technologies in eligible areas that will—

''(A) conserve resources;

''(B) prevent or mitigate adverse environmental impact;

''(C) improve visitor mobility, accessibility, and enjoyment; and

''(D) reduce pollution (including noise pollution and visual pollution).

''(2) The Secretary may request and receive appropriate information from any source.

''(3) Grants, cooperative agreements, contracts or other transactions under paragraph (1) shall be awarded from amounts allocated under subsection (c)(1).

''(k) INNOVATIVE FINANCING.—A qualified project receiving financial assistance under this section shall be eligible for funding through a state infrastructure bank or other innovative financing mechanism available to finance an eligible project under this chapter.

''(l) REPORTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, shall annually submit a report on the allocation of amounts made available to assist qualified projects under this section to—

''(A) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

''(B) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

''(2) ANNUAL AND SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be included in the report submitted under section 5309(m).''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections for chapter 53 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 5315 the following:

''5316. Alternative transportation in parks and public lands.''.

SEC. 3042. OBLIGATION CEILING.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the total of all obligations from amounts made available from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund by, and amounts appropriated under, subsections (a) through (c) of section 5338 of title 49, United States Code, shall not exceed—

(1) $7,265,876,900 for fiscal year 2004;
(2) $8,650,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
(3) $9,085,123,000 for fiscal year 2006;
(4) $9,600,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
(5) $10,490,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
(6) $11,430,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

SEC. 3043. ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2003.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall reduce the total apportionments and allocations made for fiscal year 2004 to each grant recipient under section 5338 of title 49, United States Code, by the amount apportioned to that recipient pursuant to section 8 of the Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2003 (117 Stat. 1121).

(b) FIXED GUIDEWAY MODERNIZATION ADJUSTMENT.—In making the apportionments described in subsection (a), the Secretary shall adjust the amount apportioned for fiscal year 2004 to each urbanized area for fixed guideway modernization to reflect the apportionment method set forth in 5337(a) of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 3044. DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE.

Section 1101(b) of the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century shall apply to all funds authorized or otherwise made available under this title.

SEC. 3045. INTERMODAL PASSENGER FACILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 55 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SUBCHAPTER III—INTERMODAL PASSENGER FACILITIES

§ 5571. Policy and purposes

''(a) DEVELOPMENT AND ENHANCEMENT OF INTERMODAL PASSENGER FACILITIES.—It is in the economic interest of the United States to improve the efficiency of public surface transportation modes by ensuring their connection with and access to intermodal passenger terminals, thereby streamlining the transfer of passengers among modes, enhancing travel options, and increasing passenger transportation operating efficiencies.

''(b) GENERAL PURPOSES.—The purposes of this subchapter are to accelerate intermodal integration among North America's passenger transportation modes through—

''(1) ensuring intercity public transportation access to intermodal passenger facilities;

''(2) encouraging the development of an integrated system of public transportation information; and

''(3) providing intercity bus intermodal passenger facility grants.

§ 5572. Definitions

''In this subchapter—

''(1) 'capital project' means a project for—

''(A) acquiring, constructing, improving, or renovating an intermodal facility that is related physically and functionally to intercity bus service and establishes or enhances coordination between intercity bus service and transportation, including aviation, commuter rail, intercity rail, public transportation, seaports, and the National Highway System, such as physical infrastructure associated with private bus operations at existing and new intermodal facilities, including special lanes, curb cuts, ticket kiosks and counters, baggage and package express storage, employee parking, office space, security, and signage; and

''(B) establishing or enhancing coordination between intercity bus service and transportation, including aviation, commuter rail, intercity rail, public transportation, and the National Highway System through an integrated system of public transportation information.

''(2) 'commuter service' means service designed primarily to provide daily work trips within the local commuting area.

''(3) 'intercity bus service' means regularly scheduled bus service for the general public which operates with limited stops over fixed routes connecting two or more urban areas not in close proximity, which has the capacity for transporting baggage carried by passengers, and which makes meaningful connections with scheduled intercity bus service to more distant points, if such service is available and may include package express service, if incidental to passenger transportation, but does not include air, commuter, water or rail service.

''(4) 'intermodal passenger facility' means passenger terminal that does, or can be modified to, accommodate several modes of transportation and related facilities, including some or all of the following: intercity rail, intercity bus, commuter rail, intracity rail transit and bus transportation, airport limousine service and airline ticket offices, rent-a-car facilities, taxis, private parking, and other transportation services.

''(5) 'local governmental authority' includes—

''(A) a political subdivision of a State;

''(B) an authority of at least one State or political subdivision of a State;

''(C) an Indian tribe; and

''(D) a public corporation, board, or commission established under the laws of the State.

''(6) 'owner or operator of a public transportation facility' means an owner or operator of intercity-rail, intercity-bus, commuter-rail, commuter-bus, rail-transit, bus-transit, or ferry services.

''(7) 'recipient' means a State or local governmental authority or a nonprofit organization that receives a grant to carry out this section directly from the Federal government.

''(8) 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Transportation.

''(9) 'State' means a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Virgin Islands.

''(10) 'urban area' means an area that includes a municipality or other built-up place that the Secretary, after considering local patterns and trends of urban growth, decides is appropriate for a local public transportation system to serve individuals in the locality.

''§ 5573. Assurance of access to intermodal passenger facilities

''Intercity buses and other modes of transportation shall, to the maximum extent practicable, have access to publicly funded intermodal passenger facilities, including those passenger facilities seeking funding under section 5574.

''§ 5574. Intercity bus intermodal passenger facility grants

''(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Transportation may make grants under this section to recipients in financing a capital project only if the Secretary finds that the proposed project is justified and has adequate financial commitment.

''(b) COMPETITIVE GRANT SELECTION.—The Secretary shall conduct a national solicitation for applications for grants under this section. Grantees shall be selected on a competitive basis.

''(c) SHARE OF NET PROJECT COSTS.—A grant shall not exceed 50 percent of the net project cost, as determined by the Secretary.

''(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may promulgate such regulations as are necessary to carry out this section.

''§ 5575. Funding

''(a) HIGHWAY ACCOUNT.—

''(1) There is authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out this subchapter $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2005 through 2009.

''(2) The funding made available under paragraph (1) shall be available for obligation in the same manner as if such funds were apportioned under chapter 1 of title 23 and shall be subject to any obligation limitation imposed on funds for Federal-aid highways and highway safety construction programs.

''(b) PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY.—Amounts made available under subsection (a) shall remain available until expended.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 55 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SUBCHAPTER III—INTERMODAL PASSENGER FACILITIES

Sec.
''5571. Policy and Purposes.
''5572. Definitions.
''5573. Assurance of access to intermodal facilities.
''5574. Intercity bus intermodal facility grants.
''5575. Funding.''.

TITLE IV—SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

SEC. 4001. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Surface Transportation Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004''.

Subtitle A—Highway Safety

PART I—HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM

SEC. 4101. SHORT TITLE; AMENDMENT OF TITLE 23, UNITED STATES CODE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This subpart may be cited as the ''Highway Safety Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004''.

(b) AMENDMENT OF TITLE 23, UNITED STATES CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this subpart an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of title 23, United States Code.

SEC. 4102. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) AMOUNTS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2004 THROUGH 2009.—There are authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to the Secretary of Transportation for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration the following:

(1) To carry out the Highway Safety Programs under section 402 of title 23, United States Code, $170,000,000 in fiscal year 2004, $174,000,000 in fiscal year 2005, $179,000,000 in fiscal year 2006, $185,000,000 in fiscal year 2007, $204,000,000 in fiscal year 2008, and $207,000,000 in fiscal year 2009.

(2) To carry out the Highway Safety Research and Outreach Programs under section 403 of title 23, United States Code, $110,000,000 in fiscal year 2004, $112,000,000 in fiscal year 2005, $114,000,000 in fiscal year 2006, $116,000,000 in fiscal year 2007, $118,000,000 in fiscal year 2008, and $120,000,000 in fiscal year 2009.

(3) To carry out the Occupant Protection Programs under section 405 of title 23, United States Code, $120,000,000 in fiscal year 2004, $122,000,000 in fiscal year 2005, $124,000,000 in fiscal year 2006, $126,000,000 in fiscal year 2007, $128,000,000 in fiscal year 2008, and $130,000,000 in fiscal year 2009.

(4) To carry out the Emergency Medical Services Program under section 407A of title 23, United States Code, $5,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(5) To carry out the Impaired Driving Program under section 410 of title 23, United States Code, $85,000,000 in fiscal year 2004, $89,000,000 in fiscal year 2005, $93,000,000 in fiscal year 2006, $110,000,000 in fiscal year 2007, $126,000,000 in fiscal year 2008, and $130,000,000 in fiscal year 2009.

(6) To carry out the State Traffic Safety Information System Improvements under section 412 of title 23, United States Code, $45,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(7) To carry out chapter 303 of title 49, United States Code, $4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(b) PROHIBITION ON OTHER USES.—Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, the amounts allocated from the Highway Trust Fund for programs provided for in chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code, shall only be used for such programs and may not be used by States or local governments for construction purposes.

(c) EFFECT OF REVENUE DEFICIENCY.—If revenue to the Highway Trust Fund for a given fiscal year is lower than the amounts authorized by this subpart, any subsequent reductions in the overall funding for highway and transit programs shall not affect the highway safety programs provided for in chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code.

(d) PROPORTIONAL INCREASES.—For each fiscal year from 2004 through 2009, if revenue to the Highway Trust Fund increases above the amounts for each such fiscal year set forth in the fiscal year 2004 joint budget resolution, then the amounts made available in such year for the programs in sections 402, 405, and 410 shall increase by the same percentage.

SEC. 4103. HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAMS.

(a) PROGRAMS TO BE INCLUDED.—

(1) MOTOR VEHICLE AIRBAGS PUBLIC AWARENESS.—Section 402(a)(2) is amended by striking ''vehicles and to increase public awareness of the benefit of motor vehicles equipped with airbags'' and inserting ''vehicles,''.

(2) AGRESSIVE DRIVING.—Section 402(a) is further amended—

(A) by redesignating clause (6) as clause (8);

(B) by inserting after ''involving school buses,'' at the end of clause (5) the following: ''(6) to reduce aggressive driving and to educate drivers about defensive driving, (7) to reduce accidents resulting from fatigued and distracted drivers, including distractions arising from the use of electronic devices in vehicles,''; and

(C) by inserting ''aggressive driving, distracted driving,'' after ''school bus accidents,''.

(b) APPORTIONMENT.—

(1) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS.—Section 402(c) is amended by striking ''three-fourths of 1 percent'' and inserting ''2 percent''.

(c) EXTRA FUNDING FOR OCCUPANT PROTECTION AND IMPAIRED DRIVING PROGRAMS.—Section 402 is amended by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

''(h) GRANTS.—Funds available to States under this section may be used for making grants of financial assistance for programs and initiatives authorized by sections 405 and 410 of this title.''.

(d) LAW ENFORCEMENT CHASE TRAINING.—Section 402 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(l) LIMITATION RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICULAR PURSUIT TRAINING.—No State may receive any funds available for fiscal years after fiscal year 2004 for programs under this chapter until the State submits to the Secretary a written statement that the State actively encourages all relevant law enforcement agencies in that State to follow the guidelines established for police chases issued by the International Association of Chiefs of Police that are in effect on the date of enactment of the Highway Safety Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004, or as revised and in effect after that date as determined by the Secretary.

''(m) CONSOLIDATION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall establish an approval process by which a State may apply for all grants included under this chapter through a single application with a single annual deadline. The Bureau of Indian Affairs shall establish a similarly simplified process for applications from Indian tribes.

''(n) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Funds authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section shall be subject to a deduction of not to exceed 5 percent for the necessary costs of administering the provisions of this section, section 405, section 407A, section 410, and 413 of this chapter.''.

SEC. 4104. HIGHWAY SAFETY RESEARCH AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS.

(a) REVISED AUTHORITY AND REQUIREMENTS.—Section 403 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 403. Highway safety research and development

''(a) AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY.—The Secretary is authorized to use funds appropriated to carry out this section to—

''(1) conduct research on all phases of highway safety and traffic conditions, including accident causation, highway or driver characteristics, communications, and emergency care;

''(2) conduct ongoing research into driver behavior and its effect on traffic safety;

''(3) conduct research on, and launch initiatives to counter, fatigued driving by drivers of motor vehicles and distracted driving in such vehicles, including the effect that the use of electronic devices and other factors deemed relevant by the Secretary have on driving;

''(4) conduct training or education programs in cooperation with other Federal departments and agencies, States, private sector persons, highway safety personnel, and law enforcement personnel;

''(5) conduct research on, and evaluate the effectiveness of, traffic safety countermeasures, including seat belts and impaired driving initiatives; and

''(6) conduct demonstration projects.

''(b) SPECIFIC RESEARCH PROGRAMS.—

''(1) REQUIRED PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall conduct research on the following:

''(A) EFFECTS OF USE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.—A study on the effects of the use of controlled substances on driver behavior to determine—

''(i) methodologies for measuring driver impairment resulting from use of the most common controlled substances (including the use of such substances in combination with alcohol); and

''(ii) effective and efficient methods for training law enforcement personnel to detect or measure the level of impairment of a driver who is under the influence of a controlled substance by the use of technology or otherwise.

''(B) ON-SCENE MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISION CAUSATION.—A nationally representative study to collect on-scene motor vehicle collision data, and to determine crash causation, for which the Secretary shall enter into a contract with the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a review of the research, design, methodology, and implementation of the study.

''(C) TOLL FACILITIES WORKPLACE SAFETY.—A study on the safety of highway toll collection facilities, including toll booths, conducted in cooperation with State and local highway safety organizations to determine the safety of highway toll collection facilities for the toll collectors who work in and around such facilities and to develop best practices that would be of benefit to State and local highway safety organizations. The study shall consider—

''(i) any problems resulting from design or construction of facilities that contribute to the occurrence of vehicle collisions with the facilities;

''(ii) the safety of crosswalks used by toll collectors in transit to and from toll booths;

''(iii) the extent of the enforcement of speed limits at and in the vicinity of toll facilities;

''(iv) the use of warning devices, such as vibration and rumble strips, to alert drivers approaching toll facilities;

''(v) the use of cameras to record traffic violations in the vicinity of toll facilities;

''(vi) the use of traffic control arms in the vicinity of toll facilities;

''(vii) law enforcement practices and jurisdictional issues that affect safety at and in the vicinity of toll facilities; and

''(viii) data (which shall be collected in conducting the research) regarding the incidence of

accidents and injuries at and around toll booth facilities.

''(2) TIME FOR COMPLETION OF STUDIES.—The studies conducted in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (1) may be conducted in concert with other Federal departments and agencies with relevant expertise. The Secretary shall submit an annual report to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on the progress of each study conducted under this subsection.

''(3) ONGOING STUDIES.—The studies under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) shall be conducted on an ongoing basis.

''(4) REPORTS.—

''(A) ONE-TIME STUDY.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Highway Safety Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004, the Secretary shall submit a final report on the study referred to in paragraph (1)(C) to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

''(B) ONGOING STUDIES.—The Secretary shall submit a report on the studies referred to in paragraph (3) to the Committees of Congress referred to in subparagraph (A) not later than December 31, 2005, and shall submit additional reports on such studies to such committees every 2 years. Such additional reports shall contain the findings, progress, remaining challenges, research objectives, and other relevant data relating to the ongoing studies.

''(5) RESEARCH ON DISTRACTED, INATTENTIVE, AND FATIGUED DRIVERS.—In conducting research under subsection (a)(3), the Secretary shall carry out not less than 5 demonstration projects to evaluate new and innovative means of combatting traffic system problems caused by distracted, inattentive, or fatigued drivers. The demonstration projects shall be in addition to any other research carried out under this subsection.

''(c) NATIONWIDE TRAFFIC SAFETY CAMPAIGNS.—

''(1) REQUIREMENT FOR CAMPAIGNS.—The Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall establish and administer a program under which 3 high-visibility traffic safety law enforcement campaigns will be carried out for the purposes specified in paragraph (2) in each of years 2004 through 2009.

''(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of each law enforcement campaign is to achieve either or both of the following objectives:

''(A) Reduce alcohol-impaired or drug-impaired operation of motor vehicles.

''(B) Increase use of seat belts by occupants of motor vehicles.

''(3) ADVERTISING.—The Administrator may use, or authorize the use of, funds available under this section to pay for the development, production, and use of broadcast and print media advertising in carrying out traffic safety law enforcement campaigns under this subsection. Consideration shall be given to advertising directed at non-English speaking populations, including those who listen, read, or watch nontraditional media.

''(4) COORDINATION WITH STATES.—The Administrator shall coordinate with the States in carrying out the traffic safety law enforcement campaigns under this subsection, including advertising funded under paragraph (3), with a view to—

''(A) relying on States to provide the law enforcement resources for the campaigns out of funding available under this section and sections 402, 405, and 410 of this title; and

''(B) providing out of National Highway Traffic Safety Administration resources most of the means necessary for national advertising and education efforts associated with the law enforcement campaigns.

''(5) ANNUAL EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall conduct an annual evaluation of the effectiveness of such initiatives.

''(6) FUNDING.—The Secretary shall use $24,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 for advertising and educational initiatives to be carried out nationwide in support of the campaigns under this section.

''(d) IMPROVING OLDER DRIVER SAFETY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds made available under this section, the Secretary shall allocate $2,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 to conduct a comprehensive research and demonstration program to improve traffic safety pertaining to older drivers. The program shall—

''(A) provide information and guidelines to assist physicians and other related medical personnel, families, licensing agencies, enforcement officers, and various public and transit agencies in enhancing the safety and mobility of older drivers;

''(B) improve the scientific basis of medical standards and screenings strategies used in the licensing of all drivers in a non-discriminatory manner;

''(C) conduct field tests to assess the safety benefits and mobility impacts of different driver licensing strategies and driver assessment and rehabilitation methods;

''(D) assess the value and improve the safety potential of driver retraining courses of particular benefit to older drivers; and

''(E) conduct other activities to accomplish the objectives of this action.

''(2) FORMULATION OF PLAN.—After consultation with affected parties, the Secretary shall formulate an older driver traffic safety plan to guide the design and implementation of this program. The plan shall be submitted to the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation within 180 days after the date of enactment of the Highway Safety Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004.

''(e) LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING.—

''(1) REQUIREMENT FOR PROGRAM.—The Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall carry out a program to train law enforcement personnel of each State and political subdivision thereof in police chase techniques that are consistent with the police chase guidelines issued by the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

''(2) AMOUNT FOR PROGRAM.—Of the amount available for a fiscal year to carry out this section, $200,000 shall be available for carrying out this subsection.

''(f) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.—

''(1) AUTHORITY.—The Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration may participate and cooperate in international activities to enhance highway safety.

''(2) AMOUNT FOR PROGRAM.—Of the amount available for a fiscal year to carry out this section, $200,000 may be used for activities authorized under paragraph (1).''.

(b) STUDY ON REFUSAL OF INTOXICATION TESTING.—

(1) REQUIREMENT FOR STUDY.—In addition to studies under section 403 of title 23, United States Code, the Secretary of Transportation shall carry out a study of the frequency with which persons arrested for the offense of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol and persons arrested for the offense of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated refuse to take a test to determine blood alcohol concentration levels and the effect such refusals have on the ability of States to prosecute such persons for those offenses.

(2) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the study under this section, the Secretary shall consult with the Governors of the States, the States' Attorneys General, and the United States Sentencing Commission.

(3) REPORT.—

(A) REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report on the results of the study to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

(B) CONTENT.—The report shall include any recommendation for legislation, including any recommended model State legislation, and any other recommendations that the Secretary considers appropriate for implementing a program designed to decrease the occurrence refusals by arrested persons to submit to a test to determine blood alcohol concentration levels.

SEC. 4105. NATIONAL HIGHWAY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE TECHNICAL CORRECTION.

Section 404(d) is amended by striking ''Commerce'' and inserting ''Transportation''.

SEC. 4106. OCCUPANT PROTECTION GRANTS.

Section 405 is amended—

(1) by striking the second sentence of subsection (a)(1);

(2) by striking ''Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.'' in subsection (a)(2) and inserting ''Highway Safety Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004.'';

(3) by striking subsections (a)(3) and (4), (b), (c), and (d) and redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and

(4) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) OCCUPANT PROTECTION GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the grants authorized by subsection (a), the Secretary shall make grants in accordance with this subsection.

''(2) SAFETY BELT PERFORMANCE GRANTS.—

''(A) PRIMARY SAFETY BELT USE LAW.—

''(i) For fiscal years 2004 and 2005, the Secretary shall make a grant to each State that enacted, and is enforcing, a primary safety belt use law for all passenger motor vehicles that became effective by December 31, 2002.

''(ii) For each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, the Secretary shall, after making grants under clause (i) of this subparagraph, make a one-time grant to each State that either enacts for the first time after December 31, 2002, and has in effect a primary safety belt use law for all passenger motor vehicles, or, in the case of a State that does not have such a primary safety belt use law, has a State safety belt use rate in the preceding fiscal year of at least 90 percent, as measured under criteria determined by the Secretary.

''(iii) Of the funds authorized for grants under this subsection, $100,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be available for grants under this paragraph. The amount of a grant available to a State in each of fiscal years 2004 and 2005 under clause (i) of this subparagraph shall be equal to ½ of the amount of funds apportioned to the State under section 402(c) for fiscal year 2003. The amount of a grant available to a State in fiscal year 2004 or in a subsequent fiscal year under clause (ii) of this subparagraph shall be equal to 5 times the amount apportioned to the State for fiscal year 2003 under section 402(c). A State that receives a grant under clause (ii) of this subparagraph is ineligible to receive funding under subparagraph (B) for that fiscal year and the following fiscal year. The Federal share payable for grants under this subparagraph shall be 100 percent. If the total amount of grants under clause (ii) of this subparagraph for a fiscal year exceeds the amount of funds available in the fiscal year, grants shall be made to each eligible State, in the order in which its primary safety belt use law became effective or its safety belt use rate reached 90 percent, until the funds for the fiscal year are exhausted. A State that does not receive a grant for which it is eligible in a fiscal year shall receive the grant in the succeeding

fiscal year so long as its law remains in effect or its safety belt use rate remains at or above 90 percent. If the total amount of grants under this subparagraph for a fiscal year is less than the amount available in the fiscal year, the Secretary shall use any funds that exceed the total amount for grants under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph.

''(B) SAFETY BELT USE RATE.—

''(i) For each fiscal year, from 2004 through 2009, the funds authorized for a grant under this subparagraph shall be awarded to States that increase their measured safety belt use rate, as determined by the Secretary, by decreasing the proportion of non-users of safety belts by 10 percent, as compared to the proportion of non-users, in the preceding fiscal year.

''(ii) Each State that meets the requirement of clause (i) of this subparagraph shall be apportioned an amount of funds that is equal to the amount available under this subparagraph for the relevant fiscal year multiplied by the ratio that the funds apportioned to the State under section 402 for such fiscal year bear to the funds apportioned under section 402 for such fiscal year to all states that qualify for a grant for such fiscal year.

''(iii) Of the funds authorized for grants under this subsection, $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2004, $22,000,000 for fiscal year 2005, $24,000,000 for fiscal year 2006, $26,000,000 for fiscal year 2007, $28,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, and $30,000,000 for fiscal year 2009 shall be available for safety belt use rate grants under this subparagraph.

''(iv) The Federal share payable for grants under this subparagraph shall be 100 percent.

''(c) USE OF GRANTS.—A State allocated an amount for a grant under subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (b)(2) may use the amount for activities eligible for assistance under sections 402, 405, and 410 of this title.''.

SEC. 4107. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER TRAINING.

Section 406(c) is amended by striking the first, second, and third sentences.

SEC. 4108. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

(a) FEDERAL COORDINATION AND ENHANCED SUPPORT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.—Chapter 4 is amended by inserting after section 407 the following:

''§ 407A. Federal coordination and enhanced support of emergency medical services

''(a) FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Homeland Security, through the Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response, shall establish a Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services. In establishing the Interagency Committee, the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Homeland Security through the Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response shall consult with the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

''(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Interagency Committee shall consist of the following officials, or their designees:

''(A) The Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

''(B) The Director, Preparedness Division, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.

''(C) The Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services.

''(D) The Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services.

''(E) The Administrator, United States Fire Administration, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.

''(F) The Director, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services.

''(G) The Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

''(H) The Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.

''(I) The Chief, Wireless Telecom Bureau, Federal Communications Commission.

''(J) A representative of any other Federal agency identified by the Secretary of Transportation or the Secretary of Homeland Security through the Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, as having a significant role in relation to the purposes of the Interagency Committee.

''(3) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Interagency Committee are as follows:

''(A) To ensure coordination among the Federal agencies involved with State, local, tribal, or regional emergency medical services and 9–1–1 systems.

''(B) To identify State, local, tribal, or regional emergency medical services and 9–1–1 needs.

''(C) To recommend new or expanded programs, including grant programs, for improving State, local, tribal, or regional emergency medical services and implementing improved emergency medical services communications technologies, including wireless 9–1–1.

''(D) To identify ways to streamline the process through which Federal agencies support State, local, tribal or regional emergency medical services.

''(E) To assist State, local, tribal or regional emergency medical services in setting priorities based on identified needs.

''(F) To advise, consult, and make recommendations on matters relating to the implementation of the coordinated State emergency medical services programs.

''(4) ADMINISTRATION.—The Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in cooperation with the Director, Preparedness Division, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security, shall provide administrative support to the Interagency Committee, including scheduling meetings, setting agendas, keeping minutes and records, and producing reports.

''(5) LEADERSHIP.—The members of the Interagency Committee shall select a chairperson of the Committee annually.

''(6) MEETINGS.—The Interagency Committee shall meet as frequently as is determined necessary by the chairperson of the Committee.

''(7) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Interagency Committee shall prepare an annual report to Congress on the Committee's activities, actions, and recommendations.

''(b) COORDINATED NATIONWIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM.—

''(1) PROGRAM REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Transportation, acting through the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, shall coordinate with officials of other Federal departments and agencies, and may assist State and local governments and emergency medical services organizations (whether or not a firefighter organization), private industry, and other interested parties, to ensure the development and implementation of a coordinated nationwide emergency medical services program that is designed to strengthen transportation safety and public health and to implement improved emergency medical services communication systems, including 9–1–1.

''(2) COORDINATED STATE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM.—Each State shall establish a program, to be approved by the Secretary, to coordinate the emergency medical services and resources deployed throughout the State, so as to ensure—

''(A) improved emergency medical services communication systems, including 9–1–1;

''(B) utilization of established best practices in system design and operations;

''(C) implementation of quality assurance programs; and

''(D) incorporation of data collection and analysis programs that facilitate system development and data linkages with other systems and programs useful to emergency medical services.

''(3) ADMINISTRATION OF STATE PROGRAMS.—The Secretary may not approve a coordinated State emergency medical services program under this subsection unless the program—

''(A) provides that the Governor of the State is responsible for its administration through a State office of emergency medical services that has adequate powers and is suitably equipped and organized to carry out such program and coordinates such program with the highway safety office of the State; and

''(B) authorizes political subdivisions of the State to participate in and receive funds under such program, consistent with a goal of achieving statewide coordination of emergency medical services and 9–1–1 activities.

''(4) FUNDING.—

''(A) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection shall be used to aid the States in conducting coordinated emergency medical services and 9–1–1 programs as described in paragraph (2).

''(B) APPORTIONMENT.—

''(i) APPORTIONMENT FORMULA.—The funds shall be apportioned as follows: 75 percent in the ratio that the population of each State bears to the total population of all the States, as shown by the latest available Federal census, and 25 percent in the ratio that the public road mileage in each State bears to the total public road mileage in all States. For the purpose of this subparagraph, a 'public road' means any road under the jurisdiction of and maintained by a public authority and open to public travel. Public road mileage as used in this subsection shall be determined as of the end of the calendar year prior to the year in which the funds are apportioned and shall be certified by the Governor of the State and subject to approval by the Secretary.

''(ii) MINIMUM APPORTIONMENT.—The annual apportionment to each State shall not be less than ½ of 1 percent of the total apportionment, except that the apportionment to the Secretary of the Interior on behalf of Indian tribes shall not be less than ¾ of 1 percent of the total apportionment, and the apportionments to the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands shall not be less than ¼ of 1 percent of the total apportionment.

''(5) APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER 1.—Section 402(d) of this title shall apply in the administration of this subsection.

''(6) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project or program funded under this subsection shall be 80 percent.

''(7) APPLICATION IN INDIAN COUNTRY.—

''(A) USE OF TERMS.—For the purpose of application of this subsection in Indian country, the terms 'State' and 'Governor of the State' include the Secretary of the Interior and the term 'political subdivisions of the State' includes an Indian tribe.

''(B) INDIAN COUNTRY DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'Indian country' means—

''(i) all land within the limits of any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the United States, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent and including rights-of-way running through the reservation;

''(ii) all dependent Indian communities within the borders of the United States, whether within the original or subsequently acquired territory thereof and whether within or without the limits of a State; and

''(iii) all Indian allotments, the Indian titles to which have not been extinguished, including rights-of-way running through such allotments.

''(c) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'State' means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Secretary of the Interior on behalf of Indian tribes.

''(d) CONSTRUCTION WITH RESPECT TO DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—In the administration of this section with respect to the District of Columbia, a reference in this section to the Governor of a State shall refer to the Mayor of the District of Columbia.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 4 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 407 the following:

''407A. Federal coordination and enhanced support of emergency medical services.''.

SEC. 4109. REPEAL OF AUTHORITY FOR ALCOHOL TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAMS.

(a) REPEAL.—Section 408 is repealed.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 4 is amended by striking the item relating to section 408.

SEC. 4110. IMPAIRED DRIVING PROGRAM.

(a) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—Section 410(a)(2) is amended by striking ''the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century'' and inserting ''the Highway Safety Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004''.

(b) REVISED GRANT AUTHORITY.—Section 410 is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (3) of subsection (a) and redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (3); and

(2) by striking subsections (b) through (f) and inserting the following:

''(b) PROGRAM-RELATED ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible for a grant under this section, a State shall—

''(1) carry out each of the programs and activities required under subsection (c);

''(2) comply with the additional requirements set forth in subsection (d) with respect to such programs and activities; and

''(3) comply with any additional requirements of the Secretary.

''(c) REQUIRED STATE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.—For the purpose of subsection (b)(1), a State must meet the requirements of 4 of the following 6 criteria in order to receive a grant under this section:

''(1) CHECK-POINT, SATURATION PATROL PROGRAM.—

''(A) A State program to conduct of a series of high-visibility, Statewide law enforcement campaigns in which law enforcement personnel monitor for impaired driving, either through use of check-points or saturation patrols, on a nondiscriminatory, lawful basis for the purpose of determining whether the operators of the motor vehicles are driving while under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances that meets the requirements of subparagraphs (B) and (C).

''(B) A program meets the requirements of this subparagraph only if a State organizes the campaigns in cooperation with related national campaigns organized by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, but this subparagraph does not preclude a State from initiating high-visibility, Statewide law enforcement campaigns independently of the cooperative efforts.

''(C) A program meets the requirements of this subparagraph only if, for each fiscal year, a State demonstrates to the Secretary that the State and the political subdivisions of the State that receive funds under this section have increased, in the aggregate, the total number of impaired driving law enforcement activities, as described in subparagraph (A) (or any other similar activity approved by the Secretary), initiated in such State during the preceding fiscal year by a factor that the Secretary determines meaningful for the State over the number of such activities initiated in such State during the preceding fiscal year, which shall not be less than 5 percent.

''(2) PROSECUTION AND ADJUDICATION PROGRAM.—For grants made during fiscal years after fiscal year 2004, a State prosecution and adjudication program under which—

''(A) judges and prosecutors are actively encouraged to prosecute and adjudicate cases of defendants who repeatedly commit impaired driving offenses by reducing the use of State diversion programs, or other means that have the effect of avoiding or expunging a permanent record of impaired driving in such cases;

''(B) the courts in a majority of the judicial jurisdictions of the State are monitored on the courts' adjudication of cases of impaired driving offenses; or

''(C) annual Statewide outreach is provided for judges and prosecutors on innovative approaches to the prosecution and adjudication of cases of impaired driving offenses that have the potential for significantly improving the prosecution and adjudication of such cases.

''(3) IMPAIRED OPERATOR INFORMATION SYSTEM.—

''(A) A State impaired operator information system that—

''(i) tracks drivers who are arrested or convicted for violation of laws prohibiting impaired operation of motor vehicles;

''(ii) includes information about each case of an impaired driver beginning at the time of arrest through case disposition, including information about any trial, plea, plea agreement, conviction or other disposition, sentencing or other imposition of sanctions, and substance abuse treatment;

''(iii) provides—

''(I) accessibility to the information for law enforcement personnel Statewide and for United States law enforcement personnel; and

''(II) linkage for the sharing of the information and of the information in State traffic record systems among jurisdictions and appropriate agencies, court systems and offices of the States;

''(iv) shares information with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for compilation and use for the tracking of impaired operators of motor vehicles who move from State to State; and

''(v) meets the requirements of subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) of this paragraph, as applicable.

''(B) A program meets the requirements of this subparagraph only if, during fiscal years 2004 and 2005, a State—

''(i) assesses the system used by the State for tracking drivers who are arrested or convicted for violation of laws prohibiting impaired operation of motor vehicles;

''(ii) identifies ways to improve the system, as well as to enhance the capability of the system to provide information in coordination with impaired operator information systems of other States; and

''(iii) develops a strategic plan that sets forth the actions to be taken and the resources necessary to achieve the identified improvements and to enhance the capability for coordination with the systems of other States.

''(C) A program meets the requirements of this subparagraph only if, in each of fiscal years 2006, 2007, and 2008, a State demonstrates to the Secretary that the State has made substantial and meaningful progress in improving the State's impaired operator information system, and makes public a report on the progress of the information system.

''(D) A program meets the requirements of this subparagraph only if, in fiscal year 2009, a State demonstrates to the Secretary that the State's impaired operator information system meets the basic standards for such systems as determined by the Secretary.

''(4) IMPAIRED DRIVING PERFORMANCE.—The percentage of fatally-injured drivers with 0.08 percent or greater blood alcohol concentration in the State has decreased in each of the 2 most recent calendar years.

''(5) IMPAIRED DRIVING TASK FORCE.—(A) Establishment of an impaired driving task force that involves all relevant State, tribal, and local agencies responsible for reducing alcohol impairment and impaired driving and meets the requirements of subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D). The purpose of the task force is to oversee efforts to reduce impaired driving by strengthening applicable laws, regulations, programs, and policies, and to coordinate impaired driving resources and programs among different jurisdictions. The impaired driving task force shall include State, Tribal, and local law enforcement, motor carrier safety agencies, and State alcohol and drug abuse prevention agencies, State and local court systems, State drivers licensing agencies, the State highway safety office, and State parole and probation agencies.

''(B) In fiscal year 2004 and fiscal year 2005, the State shall establish a statewide impaired driving task force to assess the State's impaired driving system, identify the opportunities for improvements in the system, and develop a strategic plan that outlines the steps and resources necessary to improve the system and enhance coordination among State and local agencies responsible for reducing impaired driving.

''(C) In each subsequent fiscal year, the State demonstrates progress in the implementation of top priorities of the strategic plan.

''(D) The State provides the Secretary a copy of the strategic plan developed under subparagraph and in subsequent years, a report detailing the progress of the strategic plan. The Secretary shall make available for public viewing each strategic plan and progress report.

''(6) IMPAIRED DRIVING COURTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A program to consolidate and coordinate impaired driving cases into courts that specialize in impaired driving cases, with the emphasis on tracking and processing offenders of impaired driving laws, (hereinafter referred to as DWI courts) that meets the requirements of this paragraph.

''(B) CHARACTERISTICS.—A DWI Court is a distinct function performed by a court system for the purpose of changing the behavior of alcohol or drug dependent offenders arrested for driving while impaired. A DWI Court can be a dedicated court with dedicated personnel, including judges, prosecutors and probation officers. A DWI court may be an existing court system that serves the following essential DWI Court functions:

''(i) A DWI Court performs an assessment of high-risk offenders utilizing a team headed by the judge and including all criminal justice stakeholders (prosecutors, defense attorneys, probations officers, law enforcement personnel and others) along with alcohol/drug treatment professionals.

''(ii) The DWI Court team recommends a specific plea agreement or contract for each offender that can include incarceration, treatment, and close community supervision. The agreement maximizes the probability of rehabilitation and minimizes the likelihood of recidivism.

''(iii) Compliance with the agreement is verified with thorough monitoring and frequent alcohol testing. Periodic status hearings assess offender progress and allow an opportunity for modifying the sentence if necessary.

''(C) ASSESSMENT.—In the first year of operation, the States shall assess the number of court systems in its jurisdiction that are consistently performing the DWI Court functions.

''(D) PLAN.—In the second year of operation, the State shall develop a strategic plan for increasing the number of courts performing the DWI function.

''(E) PROGRESS.—In subsequent years of operation, the State shall demonstrate progress in increasing the number of DWI Courts and in increasing the number of high-risk offenders participating in and successfully completing DWI Court agreements.

''(d) USES OF GRANTS.—Grants made under this section may be used for programs and activities described in subsection (c) and to defray the following costs:

''(1) Labor costs, management costs, and equipment procurement costs for the high-visibility, Statewide law enforcement campaigns under subsection (c)(1).

''(2) The costs of the training of law enforcement personnel and the procurement of technology and equipment, such as and including video equipment and passive alcohol sensors, to counter directly impaired operation of motor vehicles.

''(3) The costs of public awareness, advertising, and educational campaigns that publicize use of sobriety check points or increased law enforcement efforts to counter impaired operation of motor vehicles.

''(4) The costs of public awareness, advertising, and educational campaigns that target impaired operation of motor vehicles by persons under 34 years of age.

''(5) The costs of the development and implementation of a State impaired operator information system described in subsection (c)(3).

''(6) The costs of operating programs that impound the vehicle of an individual arrested as an impaired operator of a motor vehicle for not less than 12 hours after the operator is arrested.

''(e) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES FOR CERTAIN AUTHORIZED USES.—

''(1) COMBINATION OF GRANT PROCEEDS.—Grant funds used for a campaign under subsection (d)(3) may be combined, or expended in coordination, with proceeds of grants under section 402 of this title.

''(2) COORDINATION OF USES.—Grant funds used for a campaign under paragraph (3) or (4) of subsection (d) may be expended—

''(A) in coordination with employers, schools, entities in the hospitality industry, and nonprofit traffic safety groups; and

''(B) in coordination with sporting events and concerts and other entertainment events.

''(f) FUNDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), grant funding under this section shall be allocated among eligible States on the basis of the apportionment formula that applies for apportionments under section 402(c) of this title.

''(2) HIGH FATALITY-RATE STATES.—The amount of the grant funds allocated under this subsection to each of the 10 States with the highest impaired driving-related fatality rate for the most recent fiscal year for which the data is available preceding the fiscal year of the allocation shall be twice the amount that, except for this subparagraph, would otherwise be allocated to the State under paragraph (1).

''(g) USE OF FUNDS BY HIGH FATALITY-RATE STATES.—

''(1) REQUIRED USES.—At least ½ of the amounts allocated to States under subsection (f)(2) shall be used for the program described in subsection (c)(1).

''(2) REQUIREMENT FOR PLAN.—A State receiving an allocation of grant funds under subsection (f)(2) shall expend those funds only after consulting with the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration regarding such expenditures.

''(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) IMPAIRED OPERATOR.—The term 'impaired operator' means a person who, while operating a motor vehicle—

''(A) has a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or higher; or

''(B) is under the influence of a controlled substance.

''(2) IMPAIRED DRIVING-RELATED FATALITY RATE.—The term 'impaired driving-related fatality rate' means the rate of the fatal accidents that involve impaired drivers while operating motor vehicles, as calculated in accordance with regulations which the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall prescribe.''.

(c) NHTSA TO ISSUE REGULATIONS.—Not later than 12 months after the date of enactment of the Highway Safety Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall issue guidelines to the States specifying the types and formats of data that States should collect relating to drivers who are arrested or convicted for violation of laws prohibiting the impaired operation of motor vehicles.

SEC. 4111. STATE TRAFFIC SAFETY INFORMATION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS.

(a) GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—Chapter 4 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 412. State traffic safety information system improvements

''(a) GRANT AUTHORITY.—Subject to the requirements of this section, the Secretary shall make grants of financial assistance to eligible States to support the development and implementation of effective programs by such States to—

''(1) improve the timeliness, accuracy, completeness, uniformity, integration, and accessibility of the safety data of the State that is needed to identify priorities for national, State, and local highway and traffic safety programs;

''(2) evaluate the effectiveness of efforts to make such improvements;

''(3) link the State data systems, including traffic records, with other data systems within the State, such as systems that contain medical, roadway, and economic data; and

''(4) improve the compatibility and interoperability of the data systems of the State with national data systems and data systems of other States and enhance the ability of the Secretary to observe and analyze national trends in crash occurrences, rates, outcomes, and circumstances.

''(b) FIRST-YEAR GRANTS.—

''(1) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a first-year grant under this section in a fiscal year, a State shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the State has—

''(A) established a highway safety data and traffic records coordinating committee with a multidisciplinary membership that includes, among others, managers, collectors, and users of traffic records and public health and injury control data systems; and

''(B) developed a multiyear highway safety data and traffic records system strategic plan that addresses existing deficiencies in the State's highway safety data and traffic records system, is approved by the highway safety data and traffic records coordinating committee, and—

''(i) specifies how existing deficiencies in the State's highway safety data and traffic records system were identified;

''(ii) prioritizes, on the basis of the identified highway safety data and traffic records system deficiencies, the highway safety data and traffic records system needs and goals of the State, including the activities under subsection (a);

''(iii) identifies performance-based measures by which progress toward those goals will be determined; and

''(iv) specifies how the grant funds and any other funds of the State are to be used to address needs and goals identified in the multiyear plan.

''(2) GRANT AMOUNT.—Subject to subsection (d)(3), the amount of a first-year grant to a State for a fiscal year shall the higher of—

''(A) the amount determined by multiplying—

''(i) the amount appropriated to carry out this section for such fiscal year, by

''(ii) the ratio that the funds apportioned to the State under section 402 of this title for fiscal year 2003 bears to the funds apportioned to all States under such section for fiscal year 2003; or

''(B) $300,000.

''(c) SUCCESSIVE YEAR GRANTS.—

''(1) ELIGIBILITY.—A State shall be eligible for a grant under this subsection in a fiscal year succeeding the first fiscal year in which the State receives a grant under subsection (b) if the State, to the satisfaction of the Secretary—

''(A) submits an updated multiyear plan that meets the requirements of subsection (b)(1)(B);

''(B) certifies that its highway safety data and traffic records coordinating committee continues to operate and supports the multiyear plan;

''(C) specifies how the grant funds and any other funds of the State are to be used to address needs and goals identified in the multiyear plan;

''(D) demonstrates measurable progress toward achieving the goals and objectives identified in the multiyear plan; and

''(E) includes a current report on the progress in implementing the multiyear plan.

''(2) GRANT AMOUNT.—Subject to subsection (d)(3), the amount of a year grant made to a State for a fiscal year under this subsection shall equal the higher of—

''(A) the amount determined by multiplying—

''(i) the amount appropriated to carry out this section for such fiscal year, by

''(ii) the ratio that the funds apportioned to the State under section 402 of this title for fiscal year 2003 bears to the funds apportioned to all States under such section for fiscal year 2003; or

''(B) $500,000.

''(d) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS.—

''(1) MODEL DATA ELEMENTS.—The Secretary, in consultation with States and other appropriate parties, shall determine the model data elements that are useful for the observation and analysis of State and national trends in occurrences, rates, outcomes, and circumstances of motor vehicle traffic accidents. In order to be eligible for a grant under this section, a State shall submit to the Secretary a certification that the State has adopted and uses such model data elements, or a certification that the State will use grant funds provided under this section toward adopting and using the maximum number of such model data elements as soon as practicable.

''(2) DATA ON USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES.—The model data elements required under paragraph (1) shall include data elements, as determined appropriate by the Secretary in consultation with the States and with appropriate elements of the law enforcement community, on the impact on traffic safety of the use of electronic devices while driving.

''(3) MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.—No grant may be made to a State under this section in any fiscal year unless the State enters into such agreements with the Secretary as the Secretary may require to ensure that the State will maintain its aggregate expenditures from all other sources for highway safety data programs at or above the average level of such expenditures maintained by such State in the 2 fiscal years preceding the date of enactment of the Highway Safety Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2003.

''(4) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of adopting and implementing in a fiscal year a State program described in subsection (a) may not exceed 80 percent.

''(5) LIMITATION ON USE OF GRANT PROCEEDS.—A State may use the proceeds of a grant received under this section only to implement the program described in subsection (a) for which the grant is made.

''(e) APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER 1.—Section 402(d) of this title shall apply in the administration of this section.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 4 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''412. State traffic safety information system improvements.''.

SEC. 4112. NHTSA ACCOUNTABILITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4, as amended by section 4111, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 413. Agency accountability

''(a) TRIENNIAL STATE MANAGEMENT REVIEWS.—At least once every 3 years the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall conduct a review of each State highway safety program. The review shall include a management evaluation of all grant programs partially

or fully funded under this title. The Administrator shall provide review-based recommendations on how each State may improve the management and oversight of its grant activities and may provide a management and oversight plan.

''(b) RECOMMENDATIONS BEFORE SUBMISSION.—In order to provide guidance to State highway safety agencies on matters that should be addressed in the State highway safety program goals and initiatives as part of its highway safety plan before the plan is submitted for review, the Administrator shall provide non-binding data-based recommendations to each State at least 90 days before the date on which the plan is to be submitted for approval.

''(c) STATE PROGRAM REVIEW.—The Administrator shall—

''(1) conduct a program improvement review of any State that does not make substantial progress over a 3-year period in meeting its priority program goals; and

''(2) provide technical assistance and safety program recommendations to the State for any goal not achieved.

''(d) REGIONAL HARMONIZATION.—The Administration and the Inspector General of the Department of Transportation shall undertake a State grant administrative review of the practices and procedures of the management reviews and program reviews conducted by Administration regional offices and formulate a report of best practices to be completed within 180 days after the date of enactment of the Highway Safety Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004.

''(e) BEST PRACTICES GUIDELINES.—

''(1) UNIFORM GUIDELINES.—The Administration shall issue uniform management review and program review guidelines based on the report under subsection (d). Each regional office shall use the guidelines in executing its State administrative review duties.

''(2) PUBLICATION.—The Administration shall make the following documents available via the Internet upon their completion:

''(A) The Administration's management review and program review guidelines.

''(B) State highway safety plans.

''(C) State annual accomplishment reports.

''(D) The Administration's State management reviews.

''(E) The Administration's State program improvement plans.

''(3) REPORTS TO STATE HIGHWAY SAFETY AGENCIES.—The Administrator may not make a plan, report, or review available under paragraph (2) that is directed to a State highway safety agency until after it has been submitted to that agency.

''(f) GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE REVIEW.—The General Accounting Office shall analyze the effectiveness of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's oversight of traffic safety grants by seeking to determine the usefulness of the Administration's advice to the States regarding grants administration and State activities, the extent to which the States incorporate the Administration's recommendation into their highway safety plans and programs, and improvements that result in a State's highway safety program that may be attributable to the Administration's recommendations. Based on this analysis, the General Accounting Office shall submit a report by not later than the end of fiscal year 2008 to the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 4, as amended by section 4111, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 412 the following:

''413. Agency accountability.''.

PART II—SPECIFIC VEHICLE SAFETY-RELATED RULINGS

SEC. 4151. AMENDMENT OF TITLE 49, UNITED STATES CODE.

Except as otherwise specifically provided, whenever in this subpart an amendment is expressed in terms of an amendment to a section or other provision of law, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 4152. VEHICLE CRASH EJECTION PREVENTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 301 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 30128. Vehicle accident ejection protection

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe a safety standard under this chapter or upgrade existing Federal motor vehicle safety standards to reduce complete and partial occupant ejection from motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds that are involved in accidents that present a risk of occupant ejection. In formulating the safety standard, the Secretary shall consider the ejection-mitigation capabilities of safety technologies, such as advanced side glazing, side curtains, and side impact air bags.

''(b) DOOR LOCK AND RETENTION STANDARD.—The Secretary shall upgrade Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 206 to require manufacturers of new motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds that are distributed in commerce for sale in the United States to make such modifications to door locks, door latches, and retention components of doors in such vehicles as the Secretary determines to be necessary to reduce occupant ejection from such vehicles in motor vehicle accidents.''.

(b) RULEMAKING DEADLINES.—

(1) RULEMAKING.—The Secretary of Transportation shall issue—

(A) a notice of a proposed rulemaking under section 30128 of title 49, United States Code, not later than June 30, 2006; and

(B) a final rule under that section not later than 18 months after the publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE OF REQUIREMENTS.—In the final rule, the Secretary shall set forth effective dates for the requirements contained in the rule.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation $500,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 and 2005 to promulgate rules under section 30128 of title 49, United States Code.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 301 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 30127 the following:

''30128. Vehicle accident ejection protection.''.

SEC. 4153. VEHICLE BACKOVER AVOIDANCE TECHNOLOGY STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall conduct a study of effective methods for reducing the incidence of injury and death outside of parked passenger motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds attributable to movement of such vehicles. The Administrator shall complete the study within 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act and report its findings to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce not later than 5 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) SPECIFIC ISSUES TO BE COVERED.—The study required by subsection (a) shall—

(1) include an analysis of backover prevention technology;

(2) identify, evaluate, and compare the available technologies for detecting people or objects behind a motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds for their accuracy, effectiveness, cost, and feasibility for installation; and

(3) provide an estimate of cost savings that would result from widespread use of backover prevention devices and technologies in motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds, including savings attributable to the prevention of—

(A) injuries and fatalities; and

(B) damage to bumpers and other motor vehicle parts and damage to other objects.

SEC. 4154. VEHICLE BACKOVER DATA COLLECTION.

In conjunction with the study required in section 4153, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration may establish a method to collect and maintain data on the number and types of injuries and deaths involving motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds in non-traffic, non-accident incidents to assist in the analysis required in section 4153 of this Act regarding the inclusion of backover prevention technologies in motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds.

SEC. 4155. AGGRESSIVITY AND INCOMPATIBILITY REDUCTION STANDARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 301, as amended by section 4152, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 30129. Vehicle incompatibility and aggressivity reduction standard

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall issue motor vehicle safety standards to reduce vehicle incompatibility and aggressivity for motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds. In formulating the standards, the Secretary shall consider factors such as bumper height, weight, and any other design characteristics necessary to ensure better management of crash forces in frontal and side impact crashes among different types, sizes, and weights of motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds in order to reduce occupant deaths and injuries.

''(b) STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall develop a standard rating metric to evaluate compatibility and aggressivity among motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds.

''(c) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall create a public information program that includes vehicle ratings based on risks posed by vehicle incompatibility and aggressivity to occupants, risks posed by vehicle incompatibility and agressivity to other motorists, and combined risks posed by vehicle incompatibility and agressivity by vehicle make and model.''.

(b) RULEMAKING DEADLINES.—

(1) RULEMAKING.—The Secretary of Transportation shall issue—

(A) a notice of a proposed rulemaking under section 30129 of title 49, United States Code, not later than January 31, 2007; and

(B) a final rule under that section not later than 18 months after the publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE OF REQUIREMENTS.—In the final rule, the Secretary shall set forth effective dates for the requirements contained in the rule.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 301 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 30128 the following:

''30129. Vehicle incompatibility and aggressivity reduction standard.''.

SEC. 4156. IMPROVED CRASHWORTHINESS.

(a) IMPROVED CRASHWORTHINESS.—Subchapter II of chapter 301, as amended by section 4155, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 30130. Improved crashworthiness of motor vehicles

''(a) ROLLOVERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe a motor vehicle safety standard under this chapter for rollover crashworthiness standards for motor vehicles with a gross weight rating of not more than 10,000

pounds. In formulating the safety standard, the Secretary shall consider the prescription of a roof strength standard based on dynamic tests that realistically duplicate the actual forces transmitted to a passenger motor vehicle during an on-roof rollover crash, and shall consider safety technologies and design improvements such as—

''(A) improved seat structure and safety belt design, including seat belt pretensioners;

''(B) side impact head protection airbags; and

''(C) roof injury protection measures.

''(2) ROLLOVER RESISTANCE STANDARD.—The Secretary shall prescribe a motor vehicle safety standard under this chapter to improve on the basic design characteristics of motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds to increase their resistance to rollover. The Secretary shall also consider additional technologies to improve the handling of motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds and thereby reduce the likelihood of vehicle instability and rollovers.

''(3) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study on electronic stability control systems and other technologies designed to improve the handling of motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds and shall report the results of that study to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure by December 31, 2005.

''(b) FRONTAL IMPACT STANDARDS AND CRASH TESTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall prescribe a motor vehicle safety standard under this chapter or upgrade existing Federal motor vehicle safety standards to improve the protection of occupants in frontal impact crashes involving motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds.

''(2) TEST METHODOLOGY.—In determining the standard under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

''(A) evaluate additional test barriers and measurements of occupant head impact and neck injuries; and

''(B) review frontal impact criteria, including consideration of criteria established by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

''(c) SIDE IMPACT STANDARDS AND CRASH TESTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall prescribe a motor vehicle safety standard under this chapter or upgrade existing Federal motor vehicle safety standards to improve the protection afforded to occupants in side impact crashes involving motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds.

''(2) TEST METHODOLOGY.—In prescribing the standard under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

''(A) evaluate additional test barriers and measurements of occupant head impact and neck injuries;

''(C) consider the need for additional and new crash test dummies that represent the full range of occupant sizes and weights; and

''(D) review side impact criteria, including consideration of criteria established by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.''.

(b) RULEMAKING DEADLINES.—

(1) RULEMAKING.—The Secretary of Transportation shall—

(A) issue a notice of a proposed rulemaking under section 30130 of title 49, United States Code, not later than June 30, 2006; and

(B) issue a final rule not later than 18 months after publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE OF REQUIREMENTS.—In the final rule, the Secretary shall set forth effective dates for the requirements contained in this rule.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 301 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 30129 the following:

''30130. Improved crashworthiness of passenger motor vehicles.''.

SEC. 4157. 15-PASSENGER VANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall initiate a rulemaking and issue a final regulation not later than September 31, 2005, to include all 15-passenger vans with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's dynamic rollover testing program and require such vans to comply with all existing and prospective Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards for occupant protection and vehicle crash avoidance that are relevant to such vehicles.

(b) NEW CAR ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall initiate a rulemaking and issue a final regulation not later than September 31, 2005, to include all 15-passenger vans with a gross vehicle weight of not more than 10,000 pounds in the Administration's New Car Assessment Program rollover resistance program.

(c) VEHICLE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY FOR 15-PASSENGER VANS.—The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall evaluate and test the potential of technological systems, particularly electronic stability control systems and rollover warning systems, to assist drivers in maintaining control of 15-passenger vans with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds.

(d) CERTAIN SPECIALIZED VEHICLES EXCLUDED.—In this section, the term ''15-passenger van'' does not include an ambulance, tow truck, or other vehicle designed primarily for the transportation of property or special purpose equipment.

SEC. 4158. ADDITIONAL SAFETY PERFORMANCE CRITERIA FOR TIRES.

(a) STRENGTH AND ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall issue a final rule to upgrade Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 139 to include strength and road hazard protection safety performance criteria for light vehicle tires, which are criteria that were not addressed in the June 2003 final rule mandated by the Transportation Recall Enhancement, Accountability, and Documentation Act of 2000.

(b) RESISTANCE TO BEAD UNSEATING AND AGING.—The Secretary of Transportation shall issue a final rule to upgrade Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 139 to include resistance to bead unseating and aging safety performance criteria for passenger motor vehicle tires, which are criteria that were not addressed in the June, 2003, final rule mandated by the Transportation Recall Enhancement, Accountability, and Documentation Act of 2000.

(c) RULEMAKING DEADLINES.—The Secretary of Transportation shall—

(1) issue a notice of proposed rulemaking under subsection (a) not later than June 30, 2005, and under subsection(b) not later than December 31, 2005; and

(2) issue a final rule relating to subsection (a) not later than 18 months after June 30, 2005, and a final rule under subsection (b) not later than 18 months after December 31, 2005.

(d) TECHNOLOGY USE AND REPORT.—The Secretary shall reconsider the use of shearography analysis, on a sampling basis, for regulatory compliance and the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall report to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on the most cost effective methods of using such technology within 2 years after the date of enactment of the Highway Safety Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2004.

SEC. 4159. SAFETY BELT USE REMINDERS.

(a) NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULES TO ENCOURAGE MORE SEAT BELT USE.—Not later than 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to amend the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 208 for motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of not more than 10,000 pounds to encourage increased seat belt usage by drivers and passengers. The proposed rulemaking shall take into account the potential safety benefits and public acceptability of alternative means to encourage increased seat belt usage, including intermittent or continuous audible or visual reminders when a driver or passenger is not wearing a seat belt, features to prevent operation of convenience or entertainment features of the vehicle when a driver or passenger is not wearing a seat belt, and shall consider technology, including but not limited to technology identified by the National Academy of Sciences in its study of the potential benefits of seat belt usage reminder technologies.

(b) FINAL RULE.—Not later than 24 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue the final rule required by subsection (a).

(c) BUZZER LAW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 30124 is amended—

(A) by striking ''not'' the first place it appears; and

(B) by striking ''except'' and inserting ''including''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 30122 is amended by striking subsection (d).

SEC. 4160. MISSED DEADLINES REPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of Transportation fails to meet any rulemaking deadline established in this subtitle, the Secretary shall transmit a report to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure within 90 days after missing the deadline—

(1) explaining why the Secretary failed to meet the deadline; and

(2) setting forth a date by which the Secretary anticipates that the rulemaking will be made.

(b) CONSIDERATION OF EFFECTS.—The Secretary of Transportation shall consider and report the potential consequences, in terms of the number of deaths and the number and severity of injuries, that may result from not meeting any such deadline.

SEC. 4161. GRANTS FOR IMPROVING CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code, as amended by section 4112 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 414. Booster seat incentive grants

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall make a grant under this section to any eligible State.

''(b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make a grant to each State that, as determined by the Secretary, enacts or has enacted, and is enforcing a law requiring that children riding in passenger motor vehicles (as defined in section 405(d)(4)) who are too large to be secured in a child safety seat be secured in a child restraint (as defined in section 7(1) of Anton's Law (49 U.S.C. 30127 note)) that meets requirements prescribed by the Secretary under section 3 of Anton's Law.

''(2) YEAR IN WHICH FIRST ELIGIBLE.—

''(A) EARLY QUALIFICATION.—A State that has enacted a law described in paragraph (1) that is in effect before October 1, 2005, is first eligible to receive a grant under subsection (a) in fiscal year 2006.

''(B) SUBSEQUENT QUALIFICATION.—A State that enacts a law described in paragraph (1) that takes effect after September 30, 2005, is first eligible to receive a grant under subsection (a) in the first fiscal year beginning after the date on which the law is enacted.

''(3) CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY.—A State that is eligible under paragraph (1) to receive a grant

may receive a grant during each fiscal year listed in subsection (f) in which it is eligible.

''(4) MAXIMUM NUMBER OF GRANTS.—A State may not receive more than 4 grants under this section.

''(c) GRANT AMOUNT.—Amounts available for grants under this section in any fiscal year shall be apportioned among the eligible States on the basis of population.

''(d) USE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts received by a State under this section for any fiscal year—

''(A) 50 percent shall be used for the enforcement of, and education to promote public awareness of, State child passenger protection laws; and

''(B) 50 percent shall be used to fund programs that purchase and distribute child booster seats, child safety seats, and other appropriate passenger motor vehicle child restraints to indigent families without charge.

''(2) REPORT.—Within 60 days after the State fiscal year in which a State receives a grant under this section, the State shall transmit to the Secretary a report documenting the manner in which grant amounts were obligated or expended and identifying the specific programs supports by grant funds. The report shall be in a form prescribed by the Secretary and may be combined with other State grant reporting requirements under this chapter.

''(e) DEFINITION OF CHILD SAFETY SEAT.—The term 'child safety seat' means any device (except safety belts (as such term is defined in section 405(d)(5)), designed for use in a motor vehicle (as such term is defined in section 405(d)(1)) to restrain, seat, or position a child who weighs 50 pounds or less.

''(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation, out of the Highway Trust Fund—

''(1) $18,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;

''(2) $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;

''(3) $25,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

''(4) $30,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 411 the following:

''414. Booster seat incentive grants.''.

SEC. 4162. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation to carry out this subtitle and chapter 301 of title 49, United States Code—

(1) $130,500,000 for fiscal year 2004;

(2) $133,500,000 for fiscal year 2005;

(3) $133,600,000 for fiscal year 2006;

(4) $134,500,000 for fiscal year 2007;

(5) $138,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

(6) $141,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

PART III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 4171. DRIVER LICENSING AND EDUCATION.

(a) NATIONAL OFFICE OF DRIVER LICENSING AND EDUCATION.—Section 105 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(f)(1) There is a National Office of Driver Licensing and Education in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

''(2) The head of the National Office of Driver Licensing and Education is the Director.

''(3) The functions of the National Office of Driver Licensing and Education are as follows:

''(A) To provide States with services for coordinating the motor vehicle driver training and licensing programs of the States.

''(B) To develop and make available to the States a recommended comprehensive model for motor vehicle driver education and graduated licensing that incorporates the best practices in driver education and graduated licensing, including best practices with respect to—

''(i) vehicle handling and crash avoidance;

''(ii) driver behavior and risk reduction;

''(iii) roadway features and associated safety implications;

''(iv) roadway interactions involving all types of vehicles and road users, such as car-truck and pedestrian-car interactions;

''(v) parent education; and

''(vi) other issues identified by the Director.

''(C) To carry out such research (pursuant to cooperative agreements or otherwise) and undertake such other activities as the Director determines appropriate to develop and, on an ongoing basis, improve the recommended comprehensive model.

''(D) To provide States with technical assistance for the implementation and deployment of the motor vehicle driver education and licensing comprehensive model recommended under subparagraph (B).

''(E) To develop and recommend to the States methods for harmonizing the presentation of motor vehicle driver education and licensing with the requirements of multistage graduated licensing systems, including systems described in section 410(c)(4) of title 23, and to demonstrate and evaluate the effectiveness of those methods in selected States.

''(F) To assist States with the development and implementation of programs to certify driver education instructors, including the development and implementation of proposed uniform certification standards.

''(G) To provide States with financial assistance under section 412 of title 23 for—

''(i) the implementation of the motor vehicle driver education and licensing comprehensive model recommended under subparagraph (B);

''(ii) the establishment or improved administration of multistage graduated licensing systems; and

''(iii) the support of other improvements in motor vehicle driver education and licensing programs.

''(H) To evaluate the effectiveness of the comprehensive model recommended under subparagraph (B).

''(I) To examine different options for delivering driver education in the States.

''(J) To perform such other functions relating to motor vehicle driver education or licensing as the Secretary may require.

''(4) Not later than 42 months after the date of the enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004, the Director shall submit to Congress a report on the progress made by the National Office of Driver Licensing and Education with respect to the functions under paragraph (3).''.

(b) GRANT PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENT OF DRIVER EDUCATION AND LICENSING.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 412. DRIVER EDUCATION AND LICENSING.

''(a) AUTHORITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program to provide States, by grant, with financial assistance to support the improvement of motor vehicle driver education programs and the establishment and improved administration of graduated licensing systems, including systems described in section 410(c)(4) of this title.

''(2) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE.—The Secretary shall administer the program under this section through the Director of the National Office of Driver Licensing and Education.

''(b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe in regulations the eligibility requirements, application and approval procedures and standards, and authorized uses of grant proceeds for the grant program under this section. The regulations shall, at a minimum, authorize use of grant proceeds for the following activities:

''(A) Quality assurance testing, including follow-up testing to monitor the effectiveness of—

''(i) driver licensing and education programs;

''(ii) instructor certification testing; and

''(iii) other statistical research designed to evaluate the performance of driver education and licensing programs.

''(B) Improvement of motor vehicle driver education curricula.

''(C) Training of instructors for motor vehicle driver education programs.

''(D) Testing and evaluation of motor vehicle driver performance.

''(E) Public education and outreach regarding motor vehicle driver education and licensing.

''(F) Improvements with respect to State graduated licensing programs, as well as related enforcement activities.

''(2) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—In prescribing the regulations, the Secretary shall consult with the following:

''(A) The Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

''(B) The heads of such other departments and agencies of the United States as the Secretary considers appropriate on the basis of relevant interests or expertise.

''(C) Appropriate officials of the governments of States and political subdivisions of States.

''(D) Other relevant experts.

''(c) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANT.—The maximum amount of a grant of financial assistance for a program, project, or activity under this section may not exceed 75 percent of the total cost of such program, project, or activity.''.

(B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''412. Driver education and licensing.''.

(2) TIME FOR PROMULGATION OF REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Transportation shall promulgate the regulations under section 412(b) of title 23, United States Code (as added by paragraph (1)), not later than October 1, 2005.

(c) GRANT PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC AWARENESS OF ORGAN DONATION THROUGH DRIVER LICENSING PROGRAMS.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code (as amended by subsection (b)), is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 413. ORGAN DONATION THROUGH DRIVER LICENSING.

''(a) AUTHORITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program to provide eligible recipients, by grant, with financial assistance to carry out campaigns to increase public awareness of, and training on, authority and procedures under State law to provide for the donation of organs through a declaration recorded on a motor vehicle driver license.

''(2) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE.—The Secretary shall administer the program under this section through the Director of the National Office of Driver Licensing and Education.

''(b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe in regulations the eligibility requirements, application and approval procedures and standards, and authorized uses of grant proceeds for the grant program under this section.

''(2) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—In prescribing the regulations, the Secretary shall consult with the following:

''(A) The Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

''(B) The heads of such other departments and agencies of the United States as the Secretary considers appropriate on the basis of relevant interests or expertise.

''(C) Appropriate officials of the governments of States and political subdivisions of States.

''(D) Representatives of private sector organizations recognized for relevant expertise.''.

(B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''413. Organ donation through driver licensing.''.

(2) TIME FOR PROMULGATION OF REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Transportation shall promulgate the regulations under section 413(b)

of title 23, United States Code (as added by paragraph (1)), not later than October 1, 2005.

(d) STUDY OF NATIONAL DRIVER EDUCATION STANDARDS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT FOR STUDY.—The Secretary of Transportation shall carry out a study to determine whether the establishment and imposition of nationwide minimum standards of motor vehicle driver education would improve national highway traffic safety or the performance and legal compliance of novice drivers.

(2) TIME FOR COMPLETION OF STUDY.—The Secretary shall complete the study not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) REPORT.—The Secretary shall publish a report on the results of the study under this section not later than 2 years after the study is completed.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Of the amounts available to carry out section 403 of title 23, United States Code, for each of the fiscal years 2005 through 2010, $5,000,000 may be made available for each such fiscal year to carry out sections 412 and 413 of title 23, United States Code (as added by subsections (b) and (c), respectively).

SEC. 4172. AMENDMENT OF AUTOMOBILE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE ACT.

(a) SAFETY LABELING REQUIREMENT.—Section 3 of the Automobile Information Disclosure Act (15 U.S.C. 1232) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(g) if one or more safety ratings for such automobile have been assigned and formally published or released by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration under the New Car Assessment Program, information about safety ratings that—

''(1) includes a graphic depiction of the number of stars that corresponds to each such assigned safety rating displayed in a clearly differentiated fashion from stars indicating the unattained safety rating;

''(2) refers to frontal impact crash tests, side impact crash tests, and rollover resistance tests (whether or not such automobile has been assigned a safety rating for such tests), including statements that—

''(A) frontal impact crash test ratings are based on risk of head and chest injury;

''(B) side impact crash test ratings are based on risk of chest injury; and

''(C) rollover resistance ratings are based on risk of rollover in the event of a single automobile crash;

''(3) is presented in a legible, visible, and prominent fashion and covers at least—

''(A) 8 percent of the total area of the label; or

''(B) an area with a minimum length of 4 ½ inches and a minimum height of 3 ½ inches; and

''(4) contains a heading titled 'Government Safety Information' and a disclaimer including the following text: 'Star ratings for frontal impact crash tests can only be compared to other vehicles in the same weight class and those plus or minus 250 pounds. Side impact and rollover ratings can be compared across all vehicle weights and classes. For more information on safety and testing, please visit http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov'; and

''(h) if an automobile has not been tested by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration under the New Car Assessment Program, or safety ratings for such automobile have not been assigned in one or more rating categories, a statement to that effect.''.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than January 1, 2005, the Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe regulations to implement the labeling requirements under subsections (g) and (h) of section 3 of such Act (as added by subsection (a)).

(c) CONFORMING AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—Section 3 of such Act is further amended—

(1) in subsection (e), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon; and

(2) in subsection (f)—

(A) by adding ''and'' at the end of paragraph (3); and

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon.

(d) APPLICABILITY.—The labeling requirements under subsections (g) and (h) of section 3 of such Act (as added by subsection (a)), and the regulations prescribed under subsection (b), shall apply to new automobiles delivered on or after—

(1) September 1, 2005, if the regulations under subsection (b) are prescribed not later than August 31, 2004; or

(2) September 1, 2006, if the regulations under subsection (b) are prescribed after August 31, 2004.

SEC. 4173. CHILD SAFETY.

(a) INCORPORATION OF CHILD DUMMIES IN SAFETY TESTS.—

(1) RULEMAKING REQUIRED.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall conduct a rulemaking to increase utilization of child dummies, including Hybrid-III child dummies, in motor vehicle safety tests, including crash tests, conducted by the Administration.

(2) CRITERIA.—In conducting the rulemaking under subsection (a), the Administrator shall select motor vehicle safety tests in which the inclusion of child dummies will lead to—

(A) increased understanding of crash dynamics with respect to children; and

(B) measurably improved child safety.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall publish a report regarding the implementation of this section.

(b) CHILD SAFETY IN ROLLOVER CRASHES.—

(1) CONSUMER INFORMATION PROGRAM.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall implement a consumer information program relating to child safety in rollover crashes. The Secretary shall make information related to the program available to the public following completion of the program.

(2) CHILD DUMMY DEVELOPMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shall initiate the development of a biofidelic child crash test dummy capable of measuring injury forces in a simulated rollover crash.

(B) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on progress related to such development—

(i) not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(ii) not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) REPORT ON ENHANCED VEHICLE SAFETY TECHNOLOGIES.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall submit to Congress a report that describes, evaluates, and determines the relative effectiveness of—

(1) currently available and emerging technologies, including auto-reverse functions and child-safe window switches, that are designed to prevent and reduce the number of injuries and deaths to children left unattended inside parked motor vehicles, including injuries and deaths that result from hyperthermia or are related to power windows or power sunroofs; and

(2) currently available and emerging technologies that are designed to improve the performance of safety belts with respect to the safety of occupants aged between 4 and 8 years old.

(d) COMPLETION OF RULEMAKING REGARDING POWER WINDOWS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall—

(1) complete the rulemaking initiated by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that is ongoing on the date of the enactment of this Act and relates to a requirement that window switches be designed to reduce the accidental closing by children of power windows; and

(2) issue performance-based regulations to take effect not later than September 1, 2006, requiring that window switches or related technologies be designed to prevent the accidental closing by children of power windows.

(e) DATABASE ON INJURIES AND DEATHS IN NONTRAFFIC, NONCRASH EVENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall establish a new database of, and collect data regarding, injuries and deaths in nontraffic, noncrash events involving motor vehicles. The database shall include information regarding—

(A) the number, types, and proximate causes of injuries and deaths resulting from such events;

(B) the characteristics of motor vehicles involved in such events;

(C) the characteristics of the motor vehicle operators and victims involved in such events; and

(D) the presence or absence in motor vehicles involved in such events of advanced technologies designed to prevent such injuries and deaths.

(2) RULEMAKING.—The Secretary shall conduct a rulemaking regarding how to structure and compile the database.

(3) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall make the database available to the public.

SEC. 4174. SAFE INTERSECTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 2 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 39. Traffic signal preemption transmitters

''(a) OFFENSES.—

''(1) SALE.—A person who provides for sale to unauthorized users a traffic signal preemption transmitter in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce shall be fined not more than $10,000, imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

''(2) POSSESSION.—A person who is an unauthorized user in possession of a traffic signal preemption transmitter in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce shall be fined not more than $10,000, imprisoned not more than 6 months, or both.

''(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

''(1) TRAFFIC SIGNAL PREEMPTION TRANSMITTER.—The term 'traffic signal preemption transmitter' means any device or mechanism that can change a traffic signal's phase.

''(2) UNAUTHORIZED USER.—The term 'unauthorized user' means a user of a traffic signal preemption transmitter who is not a government approved user.''.

(b) CHAPTER ANALYSIS.—The chapter analysis for chapter 2 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''39. Traffic signal preemption transmitters.''.

SEC. 4175. STUDY ON INCREASED SPEED LIMITS.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall conduct a study to examine the effects of increased speed limits enacted by States after 1995.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The study shall collect empirical data regarding—

(A) increases or decreases in driving speeds on Interstate highways since 1995;

(B) correlations between changes in driving speeds and accident, injury, and fatality rates;

(C) correlations between posted speed limits and observed driving speeds;

(D) the overall impact on motor vehicle safety resulting from the repeal of the national maximum speed limit in 1995; and

(E) such other matters as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of completion of the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes the results of the study.

Subtitle B—Motor Carrier Safety and Unified Carrier Registration

PART I—ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

SEC. 4201. SHORT TITLE; AMENDMENT OF TITLE 49, UNITED STATES CODE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This subtitle may be cited as the ''Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004''.

(b) AMENDMENT OF TITLE 49, UNITED STATES CODE.—Except as otherwise specifically provided, whenever in this subtitle an amendment is expressed in terms of an amendment to a section or other provision of law, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 4202. REQUIRED COMPLETION OF OVERDUE REPORTS, STUDIES, AND RULEMAKINGS.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR COMPLETION.—By no later than 36 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall complete all reports, studies, and rulemaking proceedings to issue regulations which Congress directed the Secretary to complete in previous laws and which are not yet completed, including the following:

(1) Commercial Vehicle Driver Biometric Identifier, section 9105, Truck and Bus Safety and Regulatory Reform Act of 1988.

(2) General Transportation of HAZMAT, section 8(b), Hazardous Materials Transportation Uniform Safety Act of 1990.

(3) Nationally Uniform System of Permits for Interstate Motor Carrier Transport of HAZMAT, section 22, Hazardous Materials Transportation Uniform Safety Act of 1990.

(4) Training for Entry-Level Drivers of Commercial Motor Vehicles, section 4007 (a), Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991.

(5) Minimum Training Requirements for Operators and for Training Instructors of Multiple Trailer Combination Vehicles, section 4007(b)(2), Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991.

(6) Railroad-Highway Grade Crossing Safety, section 112, Hazardous Materials Transportation Authorization Act of 1994.

(7) Safety Performance History of New Drivers, section 114, Hazardous Materials Transportation Authorization Act of 1994.

(8) Motor Carrier Replacement Information and Registration System, section 103, ICC Termination Act of 1995.

(9) General Jurisdiction Over Freight Forwarder Service, section 13531, ICC Termination Act of 1995.

(10) Waivers, Exemptions, and Pilot Programs, section 4007, Transportation Equity Act for the Twenty-First Century.

(11) Safety Performance History of New Drivers, section 4014, Transportation Equity Act for the Twenty-First Century.

(12) Performance-based CDL Testing, section 4019, Transportation Equity Act for the Twenty-First Century.

(13) Improved Flow of Driver History Pilot Program, section 4022, Transportation Equity Act for the Twenty-First Century.

(14) Employee Protections, section 4023, Transportation Equity Act for the Twenty-First Century.

(15) Improved Interstate School Bus Safety, section 4024, Transportation Equity Act for the Twenty-First Century.

(16) Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration 2010 Strategy, section 104, Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999.

(17) New Motor Carrier Entrant Requirements, section 210, Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999.

(18) Certified Motor Carrier Safety Auditors, section 211, Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999.

(19) Medical Certificate, section 215, Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999.

(20) Report on Any Pilots Undertaken to Develop Innovative Methods of Improving Motor Carrier Compliance with Traffic Laws, section 220, Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999.

(21) Status Report on the Implementation of Electronic Transmission of Data State-to-State on Convictions for All Motor Vehicle Control Law Violations for CDL Holders, section 221, Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999.

(22) Assessment of Civil Penalties, section 222, Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999.

(23) Truck Crash Causation Study, section 224, Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999.

(24) Drug Test Results Study, section 226, Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999.

(b) FINAL RULE REQUIRED.—Unless specifically permitted by law, rulemaking proceedings shall be considered completed for purposes of this section only when the Secretary has issued a final rule and the docket for the rulemaking proceeding is closed.

(c) SCHEDULE FOR COMPLETION.—No fewer than one-third of the reports, studies, and rulemaking proceedings in subsection (a) shall be completed every 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act. The Inspector General of the Department of Transportation shall make an annual determination as to whether this schedule has been met.

(d) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—If the Secretary fails to complete the required number of reports, studies, and rulemaking proceedings according to the schedule set forth in subsection (c) during any fiscal year, the Secretary shall allocate to the States $3,000,000 from the amount authorized by section 31104(i)(1) of title 49, United States Code, for administrative expenses of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to conduct additional compliance reviews under section 31102 of that title instead of obligating or expending such amount for those administrative expenses.

(e) AMENDMENTS TO THE LISTED REPORTS, STUDIES, AND RULEMAKING PROCEEDINGS.—In addition to completing the reports, studies and rulemaking proceedings listed in subsection (c), the Secretary shall—

(1) amend the Interim Final Rule addressing New Motor Carrier Entrant Requirements to require that a safety audit be immediately converted to a compliance review and appropriate enforcement actions be taken if the safety audit discloses acute safety violations by the new entrant; and

(2) eliminate a proposed provision in the rulemaking proceeding addressing Commercial Van Operations Transporting Nine to Fifteen Passengers which exempts commercial van operations that operate within a 75-mile radius.

(f) COMPLETION OF NEW RULEMAKING PROCEEDINGS.—Nothing in this section delays or changes the deadlines specified for new reports, studies, or rulemaking mandates contained in this title.

(g) REPORT OF OTHER AGENCY ACTIONS.—Within 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure a report on the status of the following projects:

(1) Rescinding the current regulation which prohibits truck and bus drivers from viewing television and monitor screens while operating commercial vehicles.

(2) Incorporating Out-Of-Service Criteria regulations enforced by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

(3) Revision of the safety fitness rating system of motor carriers.

(4) Amendment of Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration rules of practice for conducting motor carrier administrative proceedings, investigations, disqualifications, and for issuing penalties.

(5) Requiring commercial drivers to have a sufficient functional speaking and reading comprehension of the English language.

(6) Inspection, repair and maintenance of intermodal container chassis and trailers.

SEC. 4203. CONTRACT AUTHORITY.

Authorizations from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out this subtitle shall be available for obligation on the date of their apportionment or allocation or on October 1 of the fiscal year for which they are authorized, whichever occurs first. Approval by the Secretary of a grant with funds made available under this title imposes upon the United States Government a contractual obligation for payment of the Government's share of costs incurred in carrying out the objectives of the grant.

PART II—MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY

SEC. 4221. MINIMUM GUARANTEE.

There are authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) not less than 1.21 percent of the total amounts made available in any fiscal year from the Highway Trust Fund for purposes of this part.

SEC. 4222. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Section 31104 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(i) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—

''(1) There are authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for the Secretary of Transportation to pay administrative expenses of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration—

''(A) $202,900,000 for fiscal year 2004;
''(B) $206,200,000 for fiscal year 2005;
''(C) $211,400,000 for fiscal year 2006;
''(D) $217,500,000 for fiscal year 2007;
''(E) $222,600,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
''(F) $228,500,000 for fiscal year 2009.

''(2) The funds authorized by this subsection shall be used for personnel costs; administrative infrastructure; rent; information technology; programs for research and technology, information management, regulatory development (including a medical review board and rules for medical examiners), performance and registration information system management, and outreach and education; other operating expenses and similar matters; and such other expenses as may from time to time become necessary to implement statutory mandates not funded from other sources.

''(3) From the funds authorized by this section, the Secretary shall ensure that compliance reviews are completed on the motor carriers that have demonstrated through performance data that they pose the highest safety risk. At a minimum, compliance reviews shall be conducted within 6 months after whenever a carrier is rated as category A or B.

''(4) The amounts made available under this section shall remain available until expended.

''(5) Of the funds authorized by paragraph (1), $6,750,000 in each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009 shall be used to carry out the medical program under section 31149.''.

(b) AMENDMENT TO APPORTIONMENT PROVISION OF TITLE 23.—Section 104(a) of title 23, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''exceed—'' and so much of subparagraph (A) as precedes clause (i) and inserting ''exceed 1⅛ percent of all sums so made available, as the Secretary determines necessary—'';

(2) by redesignating clause (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), and indenting such clauses, as so redesignated, 2 em spaces; and

(3) by striking ''system; and'' in subparagraph (B) as so redesignated, and all that follows through ''research.'' and inserting ''system.''.

(c) GRANT PROGRAMS.—There are authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for the following Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration programs:

(1) Border enforcement grants under section 31107 of title 49, United States Code—

(A) $32,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $33,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $33,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $34,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
(E) $35,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
(F) $36,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(2) Performance and registration information system management grant program under 31109 of title 49, United States Code—
(A) $4,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $4,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $4,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $4,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
(E) $4,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
(F) $4,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(3) Commercial driver's license and driver improvement program grants under section 31318 of title 49, United States Code—
(A) $22,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;
(B) $22,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
(C) $23,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;
(D) $23,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
(E) $24,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
(F) $25,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(4) Deployment of the Commercial Vehicle Informations Systems and Networks established under section 4241 of this title, $25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

(d) MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ACCOUNT.—Funds made available under subsection (c) shall be administered in the account established in the Treasury entitled ''Motor Carrier Safety 69–8055–0–7–401''.

(e) PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY.—The amounts made available under subsection (c) of this section shall remain available until expended.

SEC. 4223. MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY GRANTS.

(a) MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

(1) Section 31102 is amended—

(A) by striking ''activities by fiscal year 2000;'' in subsection (b)(1)(A) and inserting ''activities for commercial motor vehicles of passengers and freight;'';

(B) by striking ''years before December 18, 1991;'' in subsection (b)(1)(E) and inserting ''years'';

(C) by striking ''and'' after the semicolon in subsection (b)(1)(S);

(D) by striking ''personnel.'' in subsection (b)(1)(T) and inserting ''personnel;'';

(E) adding at the end of subsection (b)(1) the following:

''(U) ensures that inspections of motor carriers of passengers are conducted at stations, terminals, border crossings, or maintenance facilities, except in the case of an imminent or obvious safety hazard;

''(V) provides that the State will include in the training manual for the licensing examination to drive a non-commercial motor vehicle and a commercial motor vehicle, information on best practices for driving safely in the vicinity of commercial motor vehicles and in the vicinity of non-commercial vehicles, respectively; and

''(W) provides that the State will enforce the registration requirements of section 13902 by suspending the operation of any vehicle discovered to be operating without registration or beyond the scope of its registration.''; and

(F) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

''(c) USE OF GRANTS TO ENFORCE OTHER LAWS.—A State may use amounts received under a grant under subsection (a) of this section for the following activities:

''(1) If the activities are carried out in conjunction with an appropriate inspection of the commercial motor vehicle to enforce Government or State commercial motor vehicle safety regulations—

''(A) enforcement of commercial motor vehicle size and weight limitations at locations other than fixed weight facilities, at specific locations such as steep grades or mountainous terrains where the weight of a commercial motor vehicle can significantly affect the safe operation of the vehicle, or at ports where intermodal shipping containers enter and leave the United States; and

''(B) detection of the unlawful presence of a controlled substance (as defined under section 102 of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 (21 U.S.C. 802)) in a commercial motor vehicle or on the person of any occupant (including the operator) of the vehicle.

''(2) Documented enforcement of State traffic laws and regulations designed to promote the safe operation of commercial motor vehicles, including documented enforcement of such laws and regulations against non-commercial motor vehicles when necessary to promote the safe operation of commercial motor vehicles.''.

(2) Section 31103(b) is amended—

(A) by inserting ''(1)'' after ''ACTIVITIES.—''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) NEW ENTRANT MOTOR CARRIER AUDIT FUNDS.—From the amounts designated under section 31104(f)(4), the Secretary may allocate new entrant motor carrier audit funds to States and local governments without requiring a matching contribution from such States or local governments.''.

(3) Section 31104(a) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) to carry out section 31102:

''(1) Not more than $186,100,000 for fiscal year 2004.

''(2) Not more than $189,800,000 for fiscal year 2005.

''(3) Not more than $193,600,000 for fiscal year 2006.

''(4) Not more than $197,500,000 for fiscal year 2007.

''(5) Not more than $201,400,000 for fiscal year 2008.

''(6) Not more than $205,500,000 for fiscal year 2009.''.

(4) Section 31104(f) is amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) HIGH-PRIORITY ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary may designate up to 5 percent of amounts available for allocation under paragraph (1) for States, local governments, and organizations representing government agencies or officials for carrying out high priority activities and projects that improve commercial motor vehicle safety and compliance with commercial motor vehicle safety regulations, including activities and projects that are national in scope, increase public awareness and education, or demonstrate new technologies. The amounts designated under this paragraph shall be allocated by the Secretary to State agencies, local governments, and organizations representing government agencies or officials that use and train qualified officers and employees in coordination with State motor vehicle safety agencies. At least 80 percent of the amounts designated under this paragraph shall be awarded to State agencies and local government agencies.

''(3) SAFETY-PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PROGRAMS.—The Secretary may designate up to 10 percent of the amounts available for allocation under paragraph (1) for safety performance incentive programs for States. The Secretary shall establish safety performance criteria to be used to distribute incentive program funds. Such criteria shall include, at a minimum, reduction in the number and rate of fatal accidents involving commercial motor vehicles. Allocations under this paragraph do not require a matching contribution from a State.

''(4) NEW ENTRANT AUDITS.—The Secretary shall designate up to $29,000,000 of the amounts available for allocation under paragraph (1) for audits of new entrant motor carriers conducted pursuant to 31144(f). The Secretary may withhold such funds from a State or local government that is unable to use government employees to conduct new entrant motor carrier audits, and may instead utilize the funds to conduct audits in those jurisdictions.''.

(b) GRANTS TO STATES FOR BORDER ENFORCEMENT.—Section 31107 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 31107. Border enforcement grants

''(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—From the funds authorized by section 4222(c)(1) of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004, the Secretary may make a grant in a fiscal year to a State that shares a border with another country for carrying out border commercial motor vehicle safety programs and related enforcement activities and projects.

''(b) MAINTENANCE OF EXPENDITURES.—The Secretary may make a grant to a State under this section only if the State agrees that the total expenditure of amounts of the State and political subdivisions of the State, exclusive of United States Government amounts, for carrying out border commercial motor vehicle safety programs and related enforcement activities and projects will be maintained at a level at least equal to the average level of that expenditure by the State and political subdivisions of the State for the last 2 State or Federal fiscal years before October 1, 2003.''.

(c) GRANTS TO STATES FOR COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE IMPROVEMENTS.—Chapter 313 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 31318. Grants for commercial driver's license program improvements

''(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—From the funds authorized by section 4222(c)(3) of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004, the Secretary may make a grant to a State, except as otherwise provided in subsection (e), in a fiscal year to improve its implementation of the commercial driver's license program, providing the State is in substantial compliance with the requirements of section 31311 and this section. The Secretary shall establish criteria for the distribution of grants and notify the States annually of such criteria.

''(b) CONDITIONS.—Except as otherwise provided in subsection (e), a State may use a grant under this section only for expenses directly related to its commercial driver's license program, including, but not limited to, computer hardware and software, publications, testing, personnel, training, and quality control. The grant may not be used to rent, lease, or buy land or buildings. The Secretary shall give priority to grants that will be used to achieve compliance with the requirements of the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999. The Secretary may allocate the funds appropriated for such grants in a fiscal year among the eligible States whose applications for grants have been approved, under criteria established by the Secretary.

''(c) MAINTENANCE OF EXPENDITURES.—Except as otherwise provided in subsection (e), the Secretary may make a grant to a State under this section only if the State agrees that the total expenditure of amounts of the State and political subdivisions of the State, exclusive of United States Government amounts, for the operation of the commercial driver's license program will be maintained at a level at least equal to the average level of that expenditure by the State and political subdivisions of the State for the last 2 fiscal years before October 1, 2003.

''(d) GOVERNMENT SHARE.—Except as otherwise provided in subsection (e), the Secretary shall reimburse a State, from a grant made under this section, an amount that is not more than 80 percent of the costs incurred by the State in a fiscal year in implementing the commercial driver's license improvements described in subsection (b). In determining those costs, the Secretary shall include in-kind contributions by the State.

''(e) HIGH-PRIORITY ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) The Secretary may make a grant to a State agency, local government, or organization representing government agencies or officials for

the full cost of research, development, demonstration projects, public education, or other special activities and projects relating to commercial driver licensing and motor vehicle safety that are of benefit to all jurisdictions or designed to address national safety concerns and circumstances.

''(2) The Secretary may designate up to 10 percent of the amounts made available under section 4222(c)(3) of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004 in a fiscal year for high-priority activities under subsection (e)(1).

''(f) EMERGING ISSUES.—The Secretary may designate up to 10 percent of the amounts made available under section 4222(c)(3) of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004 in a fiscal year for allocation to a State agency, local government, or other person at the discretion of the Secretary to address emerging issues relating to commercial driver's license improvements.

''(g) APPORTIONMENT.—Except as otherwise provided in subsections (e) and (f), all amounts available in a fiscal year to carry out this section shall be apportioned to States according to a formula prescribed by the Secretary.

''(h) DEDUCTION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—On October 1 of each fiscal year or as soon after that date as practicable, the Secretary may deduct, from amounts made available under section 4222(c)(3) of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004 for that fiscal year, up to 0.75 percent of those amounts for administrative expenses incurred in carrying out this section in that fiscal year.''.

(d) NONCOMPLIANCE WITH CDL REQUIREMENTS.—Section 31314 is amended by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

''(a) FIRST FISCAL YEAR.—The Secretary of Transportation shall withhold up to 5 percent of the amount required to be apportioned to a State under section 104(b)(1), (3), and (4) of title 23 on the first day of the fiscal year after the first fiscal year beginning after September 30, 1992, throughout which the State does not comply substantially with a requirement of section 31311(a) of this title.

''(b) SECOND FISCAL YEAR.—The Secretary shall withhold up to 10 percent of the amount required to be apportioned to a State under section 104(b)(1), (3), and (4) of title 23 on the first day of each fiscal year after the second fiscal year beginning after September 30, 1992, throughout which the State does not comply substantially with a requirement of section 31311(a) of this title.''.

(e) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) The chapter analysis for chapter 311 is amended—

(A) by striking the item relating to Subchapter I, and inserting the following:

''SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL AUTHORITY AND STATE GRANTS'';

and

(B) by striking the item relating to section 31107, and inserting the following:

''31107. Border enforcement grants.''.

(2) Subchapter I of chapter 311 is amended by striking the subchapter heading and inserting the following:

''SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL AUTHORITY AND STATE GRANTS''

(3) The chapter analysis for chapter 313 is amended by inserting the following after the item relating to section 31317:

''31318. Grants for commercial driver's license program improvements.''.

SEC. 4224. CDL WORKING GROUP.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall convene a working group to study and address current impediments and foreseeable challenges to the commercial driver's license program's effectiveness and measures needed to realize the full safety potential of the commercial driver's license program. The working group shall address such issues as State enforcement practices, operational procedures to detect and deter fraud, needed improvements for seamless information sharing between States, effective methods for accurately sharing electronic data between States, updated technology, and timely notification from judicial bodies concerning traffic and criminal convictions of commercial driver's license holders.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—Members of the working group should include State motor vehicle administrators, organizations representing government agencies or officials, members of the Judicial Conference, representatives of the trucking industry, representatives of labor organizations, safety advocates, and other significant stakeholders.

(c) REPORT.—Within 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, on behalf of the working group, shall complete a report of the working group's findings and recommendations for legislative, regulatory, and enforcement changes to improve the commercial driver's license program. The Secretary shall promptly transmit the report to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

(d) FUNDING.—From the funds authorized by section 4222(c)(3) of this title, $200,000 shall be made available for each of fiscal years 2004 and 2005 to carry out this section.

SEC. 4225. CDL LEARNER'S PERMIT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 313 is amended—

(1) by striking ''time.'' in section 31302 and inserting ''license, and may have only 1 learner's permit at any time.'';

(2) by inserting ''and learners' permits'' after ''licenses'' the first place it appears in section 31308;

(3) by striking ''licenses.'' in section 31308 and inserting ''licenses and permits.'';

(4) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 31308 as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively, and inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) before a commercial driver's license learner's permit can be issued to an individual, the individual must pass a written test on the operation of a commercial motor vehicle that complies with the minimum standards prescribed by the Secretary under section 31305(a) of this title;'';

(5) by inserting ''or learner's permit'' after ''license'' each place it appears in paragraphs (3) and (4), as redesignated, of section 31308; and

(6) by inserting ''or learner's permit'' after ''license'' each place it appears in section 31309(b).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

*(1) Section 31302 is amended by inserting ''**and learner's permits**'' in the section caption.*

*(2) Sections 31308 and 31309 are each amended by inserting ''**and learner's permit**'' after ''**license**'' in the section captions.*

(3) The chapter analysis for chapter 313 is amended by striking the item relating to section 31302 and inserting the following:

''31302. Limitation on the number of driver's licenses and learner's permits.''.

(4) The chapter analysis for chapter 313 is amended by striking the items relating to sections 31308 and 31309 and inserting the following:

''31308. Commercial driver's license and learner's permit.

''31309. Commercial driver's license and learner's permit information system.''.

SEC. 4226. HOBBS ACT.

(a) Section 2342(3)(A) of title 28, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(A) the Secretary of Transportation issued pursuant to section 2, 9, 37, or 41 of the Shipping Act, 1916 (46 U.S.C. App. 802, 803, 808, 835, 839, and 841a) or pursuant to Part B or C of subtitle IV of title 49 or pursuant to subchapter III of chapter 311, chapter 313, and chapter 315 of Part B of subtitle VI of title 49; and''.

(b) Section 351(a) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—An action of the Secretary of Transportation in carrying out a duty or power transferred under the Department of Transportation Act (Public Law 89–670; 80 Stat. 931), or an action of the Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, or the Federal Aviation Administration in carrying out a duty or power specifically assigned to the Administrator by that Act, may be reviewed judicially to the same extent and in the same way as if the action had been an action by the department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government carrying out the duty or power immediately before the transfer or assignment.''.

(c) Section 352 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 352. Authority to carry out certain transferred duties and powers

''In carrying out a duty or power transferred under the Department of Transportation Act (Public Law 89–670; 80 Stat. 931), the Secretary of Transportation and the Administrators of the Federal Railroad Administration, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and the Federal Aviation Administration have the same authority that was vested in the department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government carrying out the duty or power immediately before the transfer. An action of the Secretary or Administrator in carrying out the duty or power has the same effect as when carried out by the department, agency, or instrumentality.''.

SEC. 4227. PENALTY FOR DENIAL OF ACCESS TO RECORDS.

Section 521(b)(2) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(E) COPYING OF RECORDS AND ACCESS TO EQUIPMENT, LANDS, AND BUILDINGS.—A motor carrier subject to chapter 51 of subtitle III, a motor carrier, broker, or freight forwarder subject to part B of subtitle IV, or the owner or operator of a commercial motor vehicle subject to part B of subtitle VI of this title who fails to allow the Secretary, or an employee designated by the Secretary, promptly upon demand to inspect and copy any record or inspect and examine equipment, lands, buildings and other property in accordance with sections 504(c), 5121(c), and 14122(b) of this title shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty not to exceed $500 for each offense, and each day the Secretary is denied the right to inspect and copy any record or inspect and examine equipment, lands, buildings and other property shall constitute a separate offense, except that the total of all civil penalties against any violator for all offenses related to a single violation shall not exceed $5,000. It shall be a defense to such penalty that the records did not exist at the time of the Secretary's request or could not be timely produced without unreasonable expense or effort. Nothing herein amends or supersedes any remedy available to the Secretary under sections 502(d), 507(c), or other provision of this title.''.

SEC. 4228. MEDICAL PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 311 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 31149. Medical program

''(a) MEDICAL REVIEW BOARD.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall establish a Medical Review Board to serve as an advisory committee to provide the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration with medical advice and recommendations on driver qualification medical standards and guidelines, medical examiner education, and medical research.

''(2) COMPOSITION.—The Medical Review Board shall be appointed by the Secretary and shall consist of 5 members selected from medical institutions and private practice. The membership shall reflect expertise in a variety of specialties relevant to the functions of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

''(b) CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER.—The Secretary shall appoint a chief medical examiner for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

''(c) MEDICAL STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary, with the advice of the Medical Review Board and the chief medical examiner, shall—

''(1) establish, review, and revise—

''(A) medical standards for applicants for and holders of commercial driver's licenses that will ensure that the physical condition of operators of commercial motor vehicles is adequate to enable them to operate the vehicles safely;

''(B) requirements for periodic physical examinations of such operators performed by medical examiners who have received training in physical and medical examination standards and are listed on a national registry maintained by the Department of Transportation; and

''(C) requirements for notification of the chief medical examiner if such an applicant or holder—

''(i) fails to meet the applicable standards; or

''(ii) is found to have a physical or mental disability or impairment that would interfere with the individual's ability to operate a commercial motor vehicle safely;

''(2) require each holder of a commercial driver's license or learner's permit to have a current valid medical certificate;

''(3) issue such certificates to such holders and applicants who are found, upon examination, to be physically qualified to operate a commercial motor vehicle and to meet applicable medical standards; and

''(4) develop, as appropriate, specific courses and materials for medical examiners listed in the national registry established under this section, and require those medical examiners to complete specific training, including refresher courses, to be listed in the registry.

''(d) NATIONAL REGISTRY OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS.—The Secretary, through the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration—

''(1) shall establish and maintain a current national registry of medical examiners who are qualified to perform examination, testing, inspection, and issuance of a medical certificate;

''(2) shall delegate to those examiners the authority to issue such certificates if the Medical Review Board develops a system to identify the medical examination forms uniquely and track them; and

''(3) shall remove from the registry the name of any medical examiner that fails to meet the qualifications established by the Secretary for being listed in the registry.

''(e) CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION WITH FAA.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration shall consult the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration with respect to examinations, the issuance of certificates, standards, and procedures under this section in order to take advantage of such aspects of the Federal Aviation Administration's airman certificate program under chapter 447 of this title as the Administrator deems appropriate for carrying out this section.

''(2) USE OF FAA-QUALIFIED EXAMINERS.—The Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration are authorized and encouraged to execute a memorandum of understanding under which individuals holding or applying for a commercial driver's license or learner's permit may be examined, for purposes of this section, by medical examiners who are qualified to administer medical examinations for airman certificates under chapter 447 of this title and the regulations thereunder—

''(A) until the national registry required by subsection (d) is fully established; and

''(B) to the extent that the Administrators determine appropriate, after that registry is established.

''(f) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary is authorized to promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this section.''.

(b) MEDICAL EXAMINERS.—Section 31136(a)(3) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) the physical condition of operators of commercial motor vehicles is adequate to enable them to operate the vehicles safely, and the periodic physical examinations required of such operators are performed by medical examiners who have received training in physical and medical examination standards and are listed on a national registry maintained by the Department of Transportation; and''.

(c) DEFINITION OF MEDICAL EXAMINER.—Section 31132 is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (6) through (10) as paragraphs (7) through (11), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

''(6) 'medical examiner' means an individual licensed, certified, or registered in accordance with regulations issued by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration as a medical examiner.''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 311 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 31148 the following:

''31149. Medical program.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4229. OPERATION OF COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES BY INDIVIDUALS WHO USE INSULIN TO TREAT DIABETES MELLITUS.

(a) REVISION OF FINAL RULE.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall revise the final rule to allow individuals who use insulin to treat their diabetes to operate commercial motor vehicles in interstate commerce. The revised final rule shall provide for the individual assessment of applicants who use insulin to treat their diabetes and who are, except for their use of insulin, otherwise qualified under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. The revised final rule shall be consistent with the criteria described in section 4018 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (49 U.S.C. 31305 note) and shall conclude the rulemaking process in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration docket relating to qualifications of drivers with diabetes.

(b) NO HISTORY OF DRIVING WHILE USING INSULIN REQUIRED FOR QUALIFICATION.—The Secretary may not require individuals to have experience operating commercial motor vehicles while using insulin in order to qualify to operate a commercial motor vehicle in interstate commerce.

(c) HISTORY OF DIABETES CONTROL.—The Secretary may require an individual to have used insulin for a minimum period of time and demonstrated stable control of diabetes in order to qualify to operate a commercial motor vehicle in interstate commerce. Any such requirement, including any requirement with respect to the duration of such insulin use, shall be consistent with the findings of the expert medical panel reported in July 2000 in ''A Report to Congress on the Feasibility of a Program to Qualify Individuals with Insulin-Treated Diabetes Mellitus to Operate Commercial Motor Vehicles in Interstate Commerce as Directed by the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century''.

(d) APPLICABLE STANDARD.—The Secretary shall ensure that individuals who use insulin to treat their diabetes are not held to a higher standard than other qualified commercial drivers, except to the extent that limited operating, monitoring, or medical requirements are deemed medically necessary by experts in the field of diabetes medicine.

SEC. 4230. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRIVATE MOTOR CARRIERS.

(a) TRANSPORTATION OF PASSENGERS.—

(1) Section 31138(a) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) GENERAL REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe regulations to require minimum levels of financial responsibility sufficient to satisfy liability amounts established by the Secretary covering public liability and property damage for the transportation of passengers by motor vehicle in the United States between a place in a State and—

''(1) a place in another State;

''(2) another place in the same State through a place outside of that State; or

''(3) a place outside the United States.''.

(2) Section 31138(c) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(4) The Secretary may require a person, other than a motor carrier as defined in section 13102(12) of this title, transporting passengers by motor vehicle to file with the Secretary the evidence of financial responsibility specified in subsection (c)(1) of this section in an amount not less than that required by this section, and the laws of the State or States in which the person is operating, to the extent applicable. The extent of the financial responsibility must be sufficient to pay, not more than the amount of the financial responsibility, for each final judgment against the person for bodily injury to, or death of, an individual resulting from the negligent operation, maintenance, or use of motor vehicles, or for loss or damage to property, or both.''.

(b) TRANSPORTATION OF PROPERTY.—Section 31139 is amended—

(1) by striking so much of subsection (b) as precedes paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(b) GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND MINIMUM AMOUNT.—

''(1) The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe regulations to require minimum levels of financial responsibility sufficient to satisfy liability amounts established by the Secretary covering public liability, property damage, and environmental restoration for the transportation of property by motor vehicle in the United States between a place in a State and—

''(A) a place in another State;

''(B) another place in the same State through a place outside of that State; or

''(C) a place outside the United States.'';

(2) by aligning the left margin of paragraph (2) of subsection (b) with the left margin of paragraph (1) of that subsection (as amended by paragraph (1) of this subsection); and

(3) by redesignating subsection (c) through (g) as subsections (d) through (h), respectively, and inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) FILING OF EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.—The Secretary may require a motor private carrier, as defined in section 13102 of this title, to file with the Secretary the evidence of financial responsibility specified in subsection (b) of this section in an amount not less than that required by this section, and the laws of the State or States in which the motor private carrier is operating, to the extent applicable. The amount of the financial responsibility must be sufficient to pay, not more than the amount of the financial responsibility, for each final judgment against the motor private carrier for bodily injury to, or death of, an individual resulting from negligent operation, maintenance, or use of motor vehicles, or for loss or damage to property, or both.''.

SEC. 4231. INCREASED PENALTIES FOR OUT-OF-SERVICE VIOLATIONS AND FALSE RECORDS.

(a) Section 521(b)(2)(B) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING VIOLATIONS.—A person required to make a report to the Secretary, answer a question, or make, prepare, or preserve a record under section 504 of this title or under any regulation issued by the Secretary pursuant to subchapter III of chapter 311 (except sections 31138 and 31139) or section

31502 of this title about transportation by motor carrier, motor carrier of migrant workers, or motor private carrier, or an officer, agent, or employee of that person—

''(i) who does not make that report, does not specifically, completely, and truthfully answer that question in 30 days from the date the Secretary requires the question to be answered, or does not make, prepare, or preserve that record in the form and manner prescribed by the Secretary, shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed $1,000 for each offense, and each day of the violation shall constitute a separate offense, except that the total of all civil penalties assessed against any violator for all offenses related to any single violation shall not exceed $10,000; or

''(ii) who knowingly falsifies, destroys, mutilates, or changes a required report or record, knowingly files a false report with the Secretary, knowingly makes or causes or permits to be made a false or incomplete entry in that record about an operation or business fact or transaction, or knowingly makes, prepares, or preserves a record in violation of a regulation or order of the Secretary, shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed $10,000 for each violation, if any such action can be shown to have misrepresented a fact that constitutes a violation other than a reporting or recordkeeping violation.''.

(b) Section 31310(i)(2) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) The Secretary shall prescribe regulations establishing sanctions and penalties related to violations of out-of-service orders by individuals operating commercial motor vehicles. The regulations shall require at least that—

''(A) an operator of a commercial motor vehicle found to have committed a first violation of an out-of-service order shall be disqualified from operating such a vehicle for at least 180 days and liable for a civil penalty of at least $2,500;

''(B) an operator of a commercial motor vehicle found to have committed a second violation of an out-of-service order shall be disqualified from operating such a vehicle for at least 2 years and not more than 5 years and liable for a civil penalty of at least $5,000;

''(C) an employer that knowingly allows or requires an employee to operate a commercial motor vehicle in violation of an out-of-service order shall be liable for a civil penalty of not more than $25,000; and

''(D) an employer that knowingly and willfully allows or requires an employee to operate a commercial motor vehicle in violation of an out-of-service order shall, upon conviction, be subject for each offense to imprisonment for a term not to exceed 1 year or a fine under title 18, United States Code, or both.''.

SEC. 4232. ELIMINATION OF COMMODITY AND SERVICE EXEMPTIONS.

(a) Section 13506(a) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraphs (6), (11), (12), (13), and (15);

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (7), (8), (9), (10), and (14) as paragraphs (6), (7), (8), (9) and (10), respectively;

(3) by inserting ''or'' after the semicolon in paragraph (9), as redesignated; and

(4) striking ''13904(d); or'' in paragraph (1), as redesignated, and inserting ''14904(d).''.

(b) Section 13507 is amended by striking ''(6), (8), (11), (12), or (13)'' and inserting ''(6)''.

SEC. 4233. INTRASTATE OPERATIONS OF INTERSTATE MOTOR CARRIERS.

(a) Subsection (a) of section 31144 is amended to read as follows:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

''(1) determine whether an owner or operator is fit to operate safely commercial motor vehicles, utilizing among other things the accident record of an owner or operator operating in interstate commerce and the accident record and safety inspection record of such owner or operator in operations that affect interstate commerce;

''(2) periodically update such safety fitness determinations;

''(3) make such final safety fitness determinations readily available to the public; and

''(4) prescribe by regulation penalties for violations of this section consistent with section 521.''.

(b) Subsection (c) of section 31144 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) TRANSPORTATION AFFECTING INTERSTATE COMMERCE.—Owners or operators of commercial motor vehicles prohibited from operating in interstate commerce pursuant to paragraphs (1) through (3) of this section may not operate any commercial motor vehicle that affects interstate commerce until the Secretary determines that such owner or operator is fit.''.

(c) Section 31144 is amended by redesignating subsections (d), (e), and the second subsection (c) as subsections (e), (f), and (g), respectively, and inserting after subsection (c) the following:

''(d) DETERMINATION OF UNFITNESS BY A STATE.—If a State that receives Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program funds pursuant to section 31102 of this title determines, by applying the standards prescribed by the Secretary under subsection (b) of this section, that an owner or operator of commercial motor vehicles that has its principal place of business in that State and operates in intrastate commerce is unfit under such standards and prohibits the owner or operator from operating such vehicles in the State, the Secretary shall prohibit the owner or operator from operating such vehicles in interstate commerce until the State determines that the owner or operator is fit.''.

SEC. 4234. AUTHORITY TO STOP COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 2 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 38. Commercial motor vehicles required to stop for inspections

''(a) A driver of a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in section 31132(1) of title 49, shall stop and submit to inspection of the vehicle, driver, cargo, and required records when directed to do so by an authorized employee of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, at or in the vicinity of an inspection site. The driver shall not leave the inspection site until authorized to do so by an authorized employee.

''(b) A driver of a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in subsection (a), who knowingly fails to stop for inspection when directed to do so by an authorized employee of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration at or in the vicinity of an inspection site, or leaves the inspection site without authorization, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.''.

(b) AUTHORITY OF FMCSA.—Chapter 203 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 3064. Powers of Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

''Authorized employees of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration may direct a driver of a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in 49 U.S.C. 31132(1), to stop for inspection of the vehicle, driver, cargo, and required records at or in the vicinity of an inspection site.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The chapter analysis for chapter 2 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 37 the following:

''38. Commercial motor vehicles required to stop for inspections.''.

(2) The chapter analysis for chapter 203 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3063 the following:

''3064. Powers of Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.''.

SEC. 4235. REVOCATION OF OPERATING AUTHORITY.

Section 13905(e) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) PROTECTION OF SAFETY.—Notwithstanding subchapter II of chapter 5 of title 5, the Secretary—

''(A) may suspend the registration of a motor carrier, a freight forwarder, or a broker for failure to comply with requirements of the Secretary pursuant to section 13904(c) or 13906 of this title, or an order or regulation of the Secretary prescribed under those sections; and

''(B) shall revoke the registration of a motor carrier that has been prohibited from operating in interstate commerce for failure to comply with the safety fitness requirements of section 31144 of this title.'';

(2) by striking ''may suspend a registration''in paragraph (2) and inserting ''shall revoke the registration''; and

(3) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) NOTICE; PERIOD OF SUSPENSION.—The Secretary may suspend or revoke under this subsection the registration only after giving notice of the suspension or revocation to the registrant. A suspension remains in effect until the registrant complies with the applicable sections or, in the case of a suspension under paragraph (2), until the Secretary revokes the suspension.''.

SEC. 4236. PATTERN OF SAFETY VIOLATIONS BY MOTOR CARRIER MANAGEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 31135 is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(a) IN GENERAL.—'' before ''Each''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) PATTERN OF NON-COMPLIANCE.—If an officer of a motor carrier engages in a pattern or practice of avoiding compliance, or masking or otherwise concealing non-compliance, with regulations on commercial motor vehicle safety prescribed under this subchapter, the Secretary may suspend, amend, or revoke any part of the motor carrier's registration under section 13905 of this title.

''(c) LIST OF PROPOSED OFFICERS.—Each person seeking registration as a motor carrier under section 13902 of this title shall submit a list of the proposed officers of the motor carrier. If the Secretary determines that any of the proposed officers has previously engaged in a pattern or practice of avoiding compliance, or masking or otherwise concealing non-compliance, with regulations on commercial motor vehicle safety prescribed under this chapter, the Secretary may deny the person's application for registration as a motor carrier under section 13902(a)(3).

''(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall by regulation establish standards to implement subsections (b) and (c).

''(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) MOTOR CARRIER.—The term motor carrier has the meaning given the term in section 13102(12) of this title; and

''(2) OFFICER.—The term officer means an owner, chief executive officer, chief operating officer, chief financial officer, safety director, vehicle maintenance supervisor and driver supervisor of a motor carrier, regardless of the title attached to those functions.''.

(b) REGISTRATION OF CARRIERS.—Section 13902(a)(1)(B) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) any safety regulations imposed by the Secretary, the duties of employers and employees established by the Secretary under section 31135, and the safety fitness requirements established by the Secretary under section 31144; and''.

SEC. 4237. MOTOR CARRIER RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 31108 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 31108. Motor carrier research and technology program

''(a) RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY, AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) The Secretary of Transportation shall establish and carry out a motor carrier and motor coach research and technology program. The Secretary may carry out research, development, technology, and technology transfer activities with respect to—

''(A) the causes of accidents, injuries and fatalities involving commercial motor vehicles; and

''(B) means of reducing the number and severity of accidents, injuries and fatalities involving commercial motor vehicles.

''(2) The Secretary may test, develop, or assist in testing and developing any material, invention, patented article, or process related to the research and technology program.

''(3) The Secretary may use the funds appropriated to carry out this section for training or education of commercial motor vehicle safety personnel, including, but not limited to, training in accident reconstruction and detection of controlled substances or other contraband, and stolen cargo or vehicles.

''(4) The Secretary may carry out this section—

''(A) independently;

''(B) in cooperation with other Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities and Federal laboratories; or

''(C) by making grants to, or entering into contracts, cooperative agreements, and other transactions with, any Federal laboratory, State agency, authority, association, institution, for-profit or non-profit corporation, organization, foreign country, or person.

''(5) The Secretary shall use funds made available to carry out this section to develop, administer, communicate, and promote the use of products of research, technology, and technology transfer programs under this section.

''(b) COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—

''(1) To advance innovative solutions to problems involving commercial motor vehicle and motor carrier safety, security, and efficiency, and to stimulate the deployment of emerging technology, the Secretary may carry out, on a cost-shared basis, collaborative research and development with—

''(A) non-Federal entities, including State and local governments, foreign governments, colleges and universities, corporations, institutions, partnerships, and sole proprietorships that are incorporated or established under the laws of any State; and

''(B) Federal laboratories.

''(2) In carrying out this subsection, the Secretary may enter into cooperative research and development agreements (as defined in section 12 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710a)).

''(3)(A) The Federal share of the cost of activities carried out under a cooperative research and development agreement entered into under this subsection shall not exceed 50 percent, except that if there is substantial public interest or benefit, the Secretary may approve a greater Federal share.

''(B) All costs directly incurred by the non-Federal partners, including personnel, travel, and hardware or software development costs, shall be credited toward the non-Federal share of the cost of the activities described in subparagraph (A).

''(4) The research, development, or use of a technology under a cooperative research and development agreement entered into under this subsection, including the terms under which the technology may be licensed and the resulting royalties may be distributed, shall be subject to the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.).

''(5) Section 5 of title 41, United States Code, shall not apply to a contract or agreement entered into under this section.

''(c) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—The amounts made available under section 4222(a) of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004 to carry out this section shall remain available until expended.

''(d) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—Approval by the Secretary of a grant with funds made available under section 4222(a) of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004 to carry out this section imposes upon the United States Government a contractual obligation for payment of the Government's share of costs incurred in carrying out the objectives of the grant.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 311 is amended by striking the item relating to section 31108, and inserting the following:

''31108. Motor carrier research and technology program.''.

SEC. 4238. REVIEW OF COMMERCIAL ZONE EXEMPTION PROVISION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall complete a review of part 372 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, as it pertains to commercial zone exemptions (excluding border commercial zones) from Department of Transportation and Surface Transportation Board regulations governing interstate commerce. The Secretary shall determine whether such exemptions should continue to apply as written, should undergo revision, or should be revoked. The Secretary shall submit to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure a report of the review not later than 14 months after such date of enactment.

(b) NOTICE.—The Secretary shall publish notice of the review required by subsection (a) and provide and opportunity for the public to submit comments on the effect of continuing, revising, or revoking the commercial zone exemptions in part 372 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 4239. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 311 is amended by inserting at the end the following:

''Subchapter IV—Miscellaneous

''§ 31161. International cooperation

''The Secretary is authorized to use funds appropriated under section 31104(i) of this title to participate and cooperate in international activities to enhance motor carrier, commercial motor vehicle, driver, and highway safety by such means as exchanging information, conducting research, and examining needs, best practices, and new technology.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 311 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SUBCHAPTER IV—MISCELLANEOUS

''31161. International cooperation.''.

SEC. 4240. PERFORMANCE AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION SYSTEM MANAGEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 31106(b) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

''(2) DESIGN.—The program shall link Federal motor carrier safety information systems with State commercial vehicle registration and licensing systems and shall be designed to enable a State to—

''(A) determine the safety fitness of a motor carrier or registrant when licensing or registering the registrant or motor carrier or while the license or registration is in effect; and

''(B) deny, suspend, or revoke the commercial motor vehicle registrations of a motor carrier or registrant that has been issued an operations out-of-service order by the Secretary.

''(3) CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary shall require States, as a condition of participation in the program, to—

''(A) comply with the uniform policies, procedures, and technical and operational standards prescribed by the Secretary under subsection (a)(4);

''(B) possess the authority to impose sanctions relating to commercial motor vehicle registration on the basis of a Federal safety fitness determination; and

''(C) cancel the motor vehicle registration and seize the registration plates of an employer found liable under section 31310(i)(2)(C) of this title for knowingly allowing or requiring an employee to operate a commercial motor vehicle in violation of an out-of-service order.''; and

(2) by striking paragraph (4).

(b) PERFORMANCE AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION SYSTEM MANAGEMENT GRANTS.—

(1) Subchapter I of chapter 311, as amended by this title, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 31109. Performance and Registration Information System Management

''(a) IN GENERAL.—From the funds authorized by section 4222(c)(2) of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004, the Secretary may make a grant in a fiscal year to a State to implement the performance and registration information system management requirements of section 31106(b).

''(b) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts made available to a State under section 4222(c)(2) of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004 to carry out this section shall remain available until expended.

''(c) SECRETARY'S APPROVAL.—Approval by the Secretary of a grant to a State under section 4222(c)(2) of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004 to carry out this section is a contractual obligation of the Government for payment of the amount of the grant.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 311 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 31108 the following:

''31109. Performance and Registration Information System Management.''.

SEC. 4241. COMMERCIAL VEHICLE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS DEPLOYMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a commercial vehicle information systems and networks program to—

(1) improve the safety and productivity of commercial vehicles; and

(2) reduce costs associated with commercial vehicle operations and Federal and State commercial vehicle regulatory requirements.

(b) PURPOSE.—The program shall advance the technological capability and promote the deployment of intelligent transportation system applications for commercial vehicle operations, including commercial vehicle, commercial driver, and carrier-specific information systems and networks.

(c) CORE DEPLOYMENT GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make grants to eligible States for the core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks.

(2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a core deployment grant under this section, a State—

(A) shall have a commercial vehicle information systems and networks program plan and a top level system design approved by the Secretary;

(B) shall certify to the Secretary that its commercial vehicle information systems and networks deployment activities, including hardware procurement, software and system development, and infrastructure modifications, are consistent with the national intelligent transportation systems and commercial vehicle information systems and networks architectures and available standards, and promote interoperability and efficiency to the extent practicable; and

(C) shall agree to execute interoperability tests developed by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to verify that its systems conform with the national intelligent transportation systems architecture, applicable standards, and protocols for commercial vehicle information systems and networks.

(3) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—The maximum aggregate amount a State may receive under this section for the core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks may not exceed $2,500,000.

(4) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds from a grant under this subsection may only be used for the core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks. Eligible States that have either completed the core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks or completed such deployment before core deployment grant funds are expended may use the remaining core deployment grant funds for the expanded deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks in their State.

(d) EXPANDED DEPLOYMENT GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year, from the funds remaining after the Secretary has made core deployment grants under subsection (c) of this section, the Secretary may make grants to each eligible State, upon request, for the expanded deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks.

(2) ELIGIBILITY.—Each State that has completed the core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks is eligible for an expanded deployment grant.

(3) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—Each fiscal year, the Secretary may distribute funds available for expanded deployment grants equally among the eligible States, but not to exceed $1,000,000 per State.

(4) USE OF FUNDS.—A State may use funds from a grant under this subsection only for the expanded deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks.

(e) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project payable from funds made available to carry out this section shall not exceed 50 percent. The total Federal share of the cost of a project payable from all eligible sources shall not exceed 80 percent.

(f) APPLICABILITY OF TITLE 23, UNITED STATES CODE.—Funds authorized to be appropriated under section 4222(c)(4) shall be available for obligation in the same manner and to the same extent as if such funds were apportioned under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, except that such funds shall remain available until expended.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMERCIAL VEHICLE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS.—The term ''commercial vehicle information systems and networks'' means the information systems and communications networks that provide the capability to—

(A) improve the safety of commercial vehicle operations;

(B) increase the efficiency of regulatory inspection processes to reduce administrative burdens by advancing technology to facilitate inspections and increase the effectiveness of enforcement efforts;

(C) advance electronic processing of registration information, driver licensing information, fuel tax information, inspection and crash data, and other safety information;

(D) enhance the safe passage of commercial vehicles across the United States and across international borders; and

(E) promote the communication of information among the States and encourage multistate cooperation and corridor development.

(2) COMMERCIAL VEHICLE OPERATIONS.—The term ''commercial vehicle operations''—

(A) means motor carrier operations and motor vehicle regulatory activities associated with the commercial movement of goods, including hazardous materials, and passengers; and

(B) with respect to the public sector, includes the issuance of operating credentials, the administration of motor vehicle and fuel taxes, and roadside safety and border crossing inspection and regulatory compliance operations.

(3) CORE DEPLOYMENT.—The term ''core deployment'' means the deployment of systems in a State necessary to provide the State with the following capabilities:

(A) SAFETY INFORMATION EXCHANGE.—Safety information exchange to—

(i) electronically collect and transmit commercial vehicle and driver inspection data at a majority of inspection sites;

(ii) connect to the Safety and Fitness Electronic Records system for access to interstate carrier and commercial vehicle data, summaries of past safety performance, and commercial vehicle credentials information; and

(iii) exchange carrier data and commercial vehicle safety and credentials information within the State and connect to Safety and Fitness Electronic Records for access to interstate carrier and commercial vehicle data.

(B) INTERSTATE CREDENTIALS ADMINISTRATION.—Interstate credentials administration to—

(i) perform end-to-end processing, including carrier application, jurisdiction application processing, and credential issuance, of at least the International Registration Plan and International Fuel Tax Agreement credentials and extend this processing to other credentials, including intrastate, titling, oversize/overweight, carrier registration, and hazardous materials;

(ii) connect to the International Registration Plan and International Fuel Tax Agreement clearinghouses; and

(iii) have at least 10 percent of the transaction volume handled electronically, and have the capability to add more carriers and to extend to branch offices where applicable.

(C) ROADSIDE SCREENING.—Roadside electronic screening to electronically screen transponder-equipped commercial vehicles at a minimum of 1 fixed or mobile inspection sites and to replicate this screening at other sites.

(4) EXPANDED DEPLOYMENT.—The term ''expanded deployment'' means the deployment of systems in a State that exceed the requirements of an core deployment of commercial vehicle information systems and networks, improve safety and the productivity of commercial vehicle operations, and enhance transportation security.

SEC. 4242. OUTREACH AND EDUCATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, may undertake outreach and education initiatives, including the ''Share the Road Safely'' program, that may reduce the number of highway accidents, injuries, and fatalities involving commercial motor vehicles. The Secretary may not use funds authorized by this part for the ''Safety Is Good Business'' program.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for fiscal year 2004 to carry out this section—

(1) $250,000 for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration; and

(2) $750,000 for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

SEC. 4243. OPERATION OF RESTRICTED PROPERTY-CARRYING UNITS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM.

(a) RESTRICTED PROPERTY-CARRYING UNIT DEFINED.—Section 31111(a) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) RESTRICTED PROPERTY-CARRYING UNIT.—The term 'restricted property-carrying unit' means any trailer, semi-trailer, container, or other property-carrying unit that is longer than 53 feet.''.

(b) PROHIBITION ON OPERATION OF RESTRICTED PROPERTY-CARRYING UNITS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 31111(b)(1)(C) is amended to read as follows:

''(C) allows operation on any segment of the National Highway System, including the Interstate System, of a restricted property-carrying unit unless the operation is specified on the list published under subsection (h);''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect 270 days after the date of enactment of this subsection.

(c) LIMITATIONS.—Section 31111 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(h) RESTRICTED PROPERTY-CARRYING UNITS.—

''(1) APPLICABILITY OF PROHIBITION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (b)(1)(C), a restricted property-carrying unit may continue to operate on a segment of the National Highway System if the operation of such unit is specified on the list published under paragraph (2).

''(B) APPLICABILITY OF STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS.—All operations specified on the list published under paragraph (2) shall continue to be subject to all State statutes, regulations, limitations and conditions, including routing-specific, commodity-specific, and configuration-specific designations and all other restrictions, in force on June 1, 2003.

''(C) FIRE-FIGHTING UNITS.—Subsection (b)(1)(C) shall not apply to the operation of a restricted property-carrying unit that is used exclusively for fire-fighting.

''(2) LISTING OF RESTRICTED PROPERTY-CARRYING UNITS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004, the Secretary shall initiate a proceeding to determine and publish a list of restricted property-carrying units that were authorized by State officials pursuant to State statute or regulation on June 1, 2003, and in actual and lawful operation on a regular or periodic basis (including seasonal operations) on or before June 1, 2003.

''(B) LIMITATION.—A restricted property-carrying unit may not be included on the list published under subparagraph (A) on the basis that a State law or regulation could have authorized the operation of the unit at some prior date by permit or otherwise.

''(C) PUBLICATION OF FINAL LIST.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall publish a final list of restricted property-carrying units described in subparagraph (A).

''(D) UPDATES.—The Secretary shall update the list published under subparagraph (C) as necessary to reflect new designations made to the National Highway System.

''(3) APPLICABILITY OF PROHIBITION.—The prohibition established by subsection (b)(1)(C) shall apply to any new designation made to the National Highway System and remain in effect on those portions of the National Highway System that cease to be designated as part of the National Highway System.

''(4) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—This subsection does not prevent a State from further restricting in any manner or prohibiting the operation of a restricted property-carrying unit; except that such restrictions or prohibitions shall be consistent with the requirements of this section and sections 31112 through 31114.''.

(d) ENFORCEMENT.—The second sentence of section 141(a) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by striking ''section 31112'' and inserting ''sections 31111 and 31112''.

SEC. 4244. OPERATION OF LONGER COMBINATION VEHICLES ON NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 31112 is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as subsections (g) and (h), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

''(f) NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM.—

''(1) GENERAL RULE.—A State may not allow, on a segment of the National Highway System that is not covered under subsection (b) or (c), the operation of a commercial motor vehicle combination (except a vehicle or load that cannot be dismantled easily or divided easily and that has been issued a special permit under applicable State law) with more than 1 property-

carrying unit (not including the truck tractor) whose property-carrying units are more than—

''(A) the maximum combination trailer, semitrailer, or other type of length limitation allowed by law or regulation of that State on June 1, 2003; or

''(B) the length of the property-carrying units of those commercial motor vehicle combinations, by specific configuration, in actual and lawful operation on a regular or periodic basis (including continuing seasonal operation) in that State on or before June 1, 2003.

''(2) ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS.—

''(A) APPLICABILITY OF STATE RESTRICTIONS.—A commercial motor vehicle combination whose operation in a State is not prohibited under paragraph (1) may continue to operate in the State on highways described in paragraph (1) only in compliance with all State laws, regulations, limitations, and conditions, including routing-specific and configuration-specific designations and all other restrictions in force in the State on June 1, 2003. Subject to regulations prescribed by the Secretary under subsection (h), the State may make minor adjustments of a temporary and emergency nature to route designations and vehicle operating restrictions in effect on June 1, 2003, for specific safety purposes and road construction.

''(B) ADDITIONAL STATE RESTRICTIONS.—This subsection does not prevent a State from further restricting in any manner or prohibiting the operation of a commercial motor vehicle combination subject to this section, except that such restrictions or prohibitions shall be consistent with this section and sections 31113(a), 31113(b), and 31114.

''(C) MINOR ADJUSTMENTS.—A State making a minor adjustment of a temporary and emergency nature as authorized by subparagraph (A) or further restricting or prohibiting the operation of a commercial motor vehicle combination as authorized by subparagraph (B) shall advise the Secretary not later than 30 days after the action. The Secretary shall publish a notice of the action in the Federal Register.

''(3) LIST OF STATE LENGTH LIMITATIONS.—

''(A) STATE SUBMISSIONS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004, each State shall submit to the Secretary for publication a complete list of State length limitations applicable to commercial motor vehicle combinations operating in the State on the highways described in paragraph (1). The list shall indicate the applicable State laws and regulations associated with the length limitations. If a State does not submit the information as required, the Secretary shall complete and file the information for the State.

''(B) PUBLICATION OF INTERIM LIST.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004, the Secretary shall publish an interim list in the Federal Register consisting of all information submitted under subparagraph (A). The Secretary shall review for accuracy all information submitted by a State under subparagraph (A) and shall solicit and consider public comment on the accuracy of the information.

''(C) LIMITATION.—A law or regulation may not be included on the list submitted by a State or published by the Secretary merely because it authorized, or could have authorized, by permit or otherwise, the operation of commercial motor vehicle combinations not in actual operation on a regular or periodic basis on or before June 1, 2003.

''(D) PUBLICATION OF FINAL LIST.—Except as revised under this subparagraph or subparagraph (E), the list shall be published as final in the Federal Register not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of the Motor Carrier Safety Reauthorization Act of 2004. In publishing the final list, the Secretary shall make any revisions necessary to correct inaccuracies identified under subparagraph (B). After publication of the final list, commercial motor vehicle combinations prohibited under paragraph (1) may not operate on a highway described in paragraph (1) except as published on the list.

''(E) INACCURACIES.—On the Secretary's own motion or on request by any person (including a State), the Secretary shall review the list published under subparagraph (D). If the Secretary decides there is reason to believe a mistake was made in the accuracy of the list, the Secretary shall begin a proceeding to decide whether a mistake was made. If the Secretary decides there was a mistake, the Secretary shall publish the correction.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 31112 is amended—

(1) by inserting ''126(e) or'' before ''127(d)'' in subsection (g)(1) (as redesignated by subsection (a) of this section);

(2) by inserting ''(or June 1, 2003, with respect to highways described in subsection (f)(1))'' after ''June 2, 1991'' in subsection (g)(3) (as redesignated by subsection (a) of this section); and

(3) by striking ''Not later than June 15, 1992, the Secretary'' in subsection (h)(2) (as redesignated by subsection (a) of this section) and inserting ''The Secretary''; and

(4) by inserting ''or (f)'' in subsection (h)(2) (as redesignated by subsection (a) of this section) after ''subsection (d)''.

SEC. 4245. APPLICATION OF SAFETY STANDARDS TO CERTAIN FOREIGN MOTOR CARRIERS.

(a) APPLICATION OF SAFETY STANDARDS.—Section 30112 is amended—

(1) by striking ''person'' in subsection (a) and inserting ''person, including a foreign motor carrier,''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) FOREIGN MOTOR CARRIER.—The term 'foreign motor carrier' has the meaning given that term in section 13102 of this title.

''(2) IMPORT.—The term 'import' means transport by any means into the United States, on a permanent or temporary basis, including the transportation of a motor vehicle into the United States for the purpose of providing the transportation of cargo or passengers.''.

(b) REQUIREMENT FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE.—Section 30115 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(c) APPLICATION TO FOREIGN MOTOR CARRIERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The requirement for certification described in subsection (a) shall apply to a foreign motor carrier that imports a motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment into the United States. Such certification shall be made to the Secretary of Transportation prior to the import of the vehicle or equipment.

''(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) FOREIGN MOTOR CARRIER.—The term 'foreign motor carrier' has the meaning given that term in section 13102 of this title.

''(B) IMPORT.—The term 'import' has the meaning given that term in section 30112 of this title.''.

(c) TIME FOR COMPLIANCE.—The amendments made by sections (a) and (b) shall take effect on September 1, 2004.

SEC. 4246. BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR MEXICAN AND CANADIAN DRIVERS HAULING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—No commercial motor vehicle operator registered to operate in Mexico or Canada may operate a commercial motor vehicle transporting a hazardous material in commerce in the United States until the operator has undergone a background records check similar to the background records check required for commercial motor vehicle operators licensed in the United States to transport hazardous materials in commerce.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.—The term ''hazardous material'' means any material determined by the Secretary of Transportation to be a hazardous material for purposes of this section.

(2) COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term ''commercial motor vehicle'' has the meaning given that term by section 31101 of title 49, United States Code.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section takes effect on April 1, 2004.

SEC. 4247. EXEMPTION OF DRIVERS OF UTILITY SERVICE VEHICLES.

Section 345 of the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (49 U.S.C. 31136 note) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (4) of subsection (a) and inserting the following:

''(4) DRIVERS OF UTILITY SERVICE VEHICLES.—

''(A) INAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS.—Such regulations may not apply to a driver of a utility service vehicle.

''(B) PROHIBITION ON STATE REGULATIONS.—A State, a political subdivision of a State, an interstate agency, or other entity consisting of 2 or more States, may not enact or enforce any law, rule, regulation, or standard that imposes requirements on a driver of a utility service vehicle that are similar to the requirements contained in such regulations.'';

(2) by striking ''Nothing'' in subsection (b) and inserting ''Except as provided in subsection (a)(4), nothing''; and

(3) by striking ''paragraph (2)'' in the first sentence of subsection (c) and inserting ''an exemption under paragraph (2) or (4)''.

SEC. 4248. OPERATION OF COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES TRANSPORTING AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES AND FARM SUPPLIES.

(a) EXEMPTION FROM HOURS-OF-SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 345(c) of the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (49 U.S.C. 31136 note), as amended by section 4247(3) of this title, is amended by striking ''paragraph (2) or (4)'' and inserting ''paragraph (1), (2), or (4) of that subsection)''.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—The exemption provided by section 345(a)(1) of the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (49 U.S.C. 31136 note) shall apply to a person transporting agricultural commodities or farm supplies for agricultural purposes under that section on and after the date of enactment of this Act regardless of any action taken by the Secretary of Transportation under section 345(c) of that Act before the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—Section 345(e) of the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (49 U.S.C. 31136 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (5), (6), (4), and (7), respectively, and moving the paragraphs so as to appear in numerical order; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—The term 'agricultural commodity' has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5602).''.

SEC. 4249. SAFETY PERFORMANCE HISTORY SCREENING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 311, as amended by section 4228, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 31150. Safety performance history screening

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall provide companies conducting preemployment screening services for the motor carrier industry electronic access to—

''(1) commercial motor vehicle accident reports,

''(2) inspection reports that contain no driver-related safety violations, and

''(3) serious driver-related safety violation inspection reports that are contained in the Motor Carrier Management Information System.

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Prior to making information available to such companies under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

''(1) ensure that any information released is done in accordance with the Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) and all applicable Federal laws;

''(2) require the driver applicant's written consent as a condition of releasing the information;

''(3) ensure that the information made available to companies providing pre-employment screening services is not released to any other unauthorized company or individual, unless expressly authorized or required by law; and

''(4) provide a procedure for drivers to remedy incorrect information in a timely manner.

''(c) DESIGN.—To be eligible to have access to information under subsection (a), a company conducting pre-employment screening services for the motor carrier industry shall utilize a screening process—

''(1) that is designed to assist the motor carrier industry in assessing an individual driver's crash and serious safety violation inspection history as a pre-employment condition;

''(2) the use of which is not mandatory; and

''(3) which is used only during the pre-employment assessment of a driver-applicant.

''(d) SERIOUS DRIVER-RELATED SAFETY VIOLATIONS.—In this section, the term 'serious driver-related safety violation' means a violation listed in the North American Standard Driver Out-of-service Criteria that prohibits the continued operation of a commercial motor vehicle.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 311, as amended by section 4228, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 31149 the following:

''31150. Safety performance history screening.''.

SEC. 4250. COMPLIANCE REVIEW AUDIT.

Within 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Inspector General for the Department of Transportation shall audit the compliance reviews performed by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration in fiscal year 2003 and submit a report to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on—

(1) the enforcement actions taken as a result of the compliance reviews, including fines, suspension or revocation of operating authority, unsatisfactory ratings, and follow-up actions to ensure compliance with Federal motor carrier safety regulations;

(2) whether compliance reviews are or should be performed on a corporate-wide basis for all affiliates of the motor carrier selected for a compliance review as a result of its Safety Status Measurement System ranking or the submission of a complaint;

(3) whether the enforcement actions taken by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration are adequate to assure future compliance of the motor carrier with Federal safety regulations and what deterrent effect those enforcement actions may have industry-wide;

(4) whether the methodology for calculating the crash rate of commercial motor vehicles in the Safety Status Measurement System would be more appropriately based on the number of vehicle miles driven by a motor carrier rather than the number of trucks operated by the carrier;

(5) whether the public access information in the Safety Status Measurement System meets the agency's requirements under the Data Quality Act; and

(6) the existing information Selection System Indicators criteria and weighting and whether the safety evaluation area containing data on accidents should receive higher priority for complaince reviews and inspection selection.

PART III—UNIFIED CARRIER REGISTRATION

SEC. 4261. SHORT TITLE.

This part may be cited as the ''Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2004''.

SEC. 4262. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.

Except as provided in section 14504 of title 49, United States Code, and sections 14504a and 14506 of title 49, United States Code, as added by this part, this part is not intended to prohibit any State or any political subdivision of any State from enacting, imposing, or enforcing any law or regulation with respect to a motor carrier, motor private carrier, broker, freight forwarder, or leasing company that is not otherwise prohibited by law.

SEC. 4263. INCLUSION OF MOTOR PRIVATE AND EXEMPT CARRIERS.

(a) PERSONS REGISTERED TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION OR SERVICE AS A MOTOR CARRIER OR MOTOR PRIVATE CARRIER.—Section 13905 is amended by—

(1) redesignating subsections (b), (c), (d), and (e) as subsections (c), (d), (e), and (f), respectively; and

(2) inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) PERSON REGISTERED WITH SECRETARY.—Any person having registered with the Secretary to provide transportation or service as a motor carrier or motor private carrier under this title, as in effect on January 1, 2002, but not having registered pursuant to section 13902(a) of this title, shall be deemed, for purposes of this part, to be registered to provide such transportation or service for purposes of sections 13908 and 14504a of this title.''.

(b) SECURITY REQUIREMENT.—Section 13906(a) is amended by—

(1) redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively; and

(2) inserting the following:

''(2) SECURITY REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2004, any person, other than a motor private carrier, registered with the Secretary to provide transportation or service as a motor carrier under section 13905(b) of this title shall file with the Secretary a bond, insurance policy, or other type of security approved by the Secretary, in an amount not less than required by sections 31138 and 31139 of this title.''.

SEC. 4264. UNIFIED CARRIER REGISTRATION SYSTEM.

(a) Section 13908 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 13908. Registration and other reforms

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIFIED CARRIER REGISTRATION SYSTEM.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the States, representatives of the motor carrier, motor private carrier, freight forwarder and broker industries, and after notice and opportunity for public comment, shall issue within 1 year after the date of enactment of the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2004 regulations to establish, an online, Federal registration system to be named the Unified Carrier Registration System to replace—

''(1) the current Department of Transportation identification number system, the Single State Registration System under section 14504 of this title;

''(2) the registration system contained in this chapter and the financial responsibility information system under section 13906; and

''(3) the service of process agent systems under sections 503 and 13304 of this title.

''(b) ROLE AS CLEARINGHOUSE AND DEPOSITORY OF INFORMATION.—The Unified Carrier Registration System shall serve as a clearinghouse and depository of information on, and identification of, all foreign and domestic motor carriers, motor private carriers, brokers, and freight forwarders, and others required to register with the Department, including information with respect to a carrier's safety rating, compliance with required levels of financial responsibility, and compliance with the provisions of section 14504a of this title. The Secretary shall ensure that Federal agencies, States, representatives of the motor carrier industry, and the public have access to the Unified Carrier Registration System, including the records and information contained in the System.

''(c) PROCEDURES FOR CORRECTING INFORMATION.—Not later than 60 days after the effective date of this section, the Secretary shall prescribe regulations establishing procedures that enable a motor carrier to correct erroneous information contained in any part of the Unified Carrier Registration System.

''(d) FEE SYSTEM.—The Secretary shall establish, under section 9701 of title 31, a fee system for the Unified Carrier Registration System according to the following guidelines:

''(1) REGISTRATION AND FILING EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.—The fee for new registrants shall as nearly as possible cover the costs of processing the registration and conducting the safety audit or examination, if required, but shall not exceed $300.

''(2) EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.—The fee for filing evidence of financial responsibility pursuant to this section shall not exceed $10 per filing. No fee shall be charged for a filing for purposes of designating an agent for service of process or the filing of other information relating to financial responsibility.

''(3) ACCESS AND RETRIEVAL FEES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the fee system shall include a nominal fee for the access to or retrieval of information from the Unified Carrier Registration System to cover the costs of operating and upgrading the System, including the personnel costs incurred by the Department and the costs of administration of the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement.

''(B) EXCEPTIONS.—There shall be no fee charged—

''(i) to any agency of the Federal Government or a State government or any political subdivision of any such government for the access to or retrieval of information and data from the Unified Carrier Registration System for its own use; or

''(ii) to any representative of a motor carrier, motor private carrier, leasing company, broker, or freight forwarder (as each is defined in section 14504a of this title) for the access to or retrieval of the individual information related to such entity from the Unified Carrier Registration System for the individual use of such entity.''.

SEC. 4265. REGISTRATION OF MOTOR CARRIERS BY STATES.

(a) TERMINATION OF REGISTRATION PROVISIONS.—Section 14504 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) TERMINATION OF PROVISIONS.—Subsections (b) and (c) shall cease to be effective on the first January 1st occurring more than 12 months after the date of enactment of the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2004.''.

(b) UNIFIED CARRIER REGISTRATION SYSTEM PLAN AND AGREEMENT.—Chapter 145 is amended by inserting after section 14504 the following:

''§ 14504a. Unified carrier registration system plan and agreement

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section and section 14506 of this title:

''(1) COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term 'commercial motor vehicle' has the meaning given the term in section 31101 of this title.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—With respect to motor carriers required to make any filing or pay any fee to a State with respect to the motor carrier's authority or insurance related to operation within such State, the term 'commercial motor vehicle' means any self-propelled vehicle used on the highway in commerce to transport passengers or property for compensation regardless of the gross vehicle weight rating of the vehicle or the number of passengers transported by such vehicle.

''(2) BASE-STATE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'Base-State' means, with respect to the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement, a State—

''(i) that is in compliance with the requirements of subsection (e); and

''(ii) in which the motor carrier, motor private carrier, broker, freight forwarder or leasing company maintains its principal place of business.

''(B) DESIGNATION OF BASE-STATE.—A motor carrier, motor private carrier, broker, freight forwarder or leasing company may designate another State in which it maintains an office or operating facility as its Base-State in the event that—

''(i) the State in which the motor carrier, motor private carrier, broker, freight forwarder or leasing company maintains its principal place of business is not in compliance with the requirements of subsection (e); or

''(ii) the motor carrier, motor private carrier, broker, freight forwarder or leasing company does not have a principal place of business in the United States.

''(3) INTRASTATE FEE.—The term 'intrastate fee' means any fee, tax, or other type of assessment, including per vehicle fees and gross receipts taxes, imposed on a motor carrier or motor private carrier for the renewal of the intrastate authority or insurance filings of such carrier with a State.

''(4) LEASING COMPANY.—The term 'leasing company' means a lessor that is engaged in the business of leasing or renting for compensation motor vehicles without drivers to a motor carrier, motor private carrier, or freight forwarder.

''(5) MOTOR CARRIER.—The term 'motor carrier' has the meaning given the term in section 13102(12) of this title, but shall include all carriers that are otherwise exempt from the provisions of part B of this title pursuant to the provisions of chapter 135 of this title or exemption actions by the former Interstate Commerce Commission under this title.

''(6) PARTICIPATING STATE.—The term 'participating state' means a State that has complied with the requirements of subsection (e) of this section.

''(7) SSRS.—The term 'SSRS' means the Single State Registration System in effect on the date of enactment of the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2004.

''(8) UNIFIED CARRIER REGISTRATION AGREEMENT.—The terms 'Unified Carrier Registration Agreement' and 'UCR Agreement' mean the interstate agreement developed under the Unified Carrier Registration Plan governing the collection and distribution of registration and financial responsibility information provided and fees paid by motor carriers, motor private carriers, brokers, freight forwarders and leasing companies pursuant to this section.

''(9) UNIFIED CARRIER REGISTRATION PLAN.—The terms 'Unified Carrier Registration Plan' and 'UCR Plan' mean the organization of State, Federal and industry representatives responsible for developing, implementing and administering the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement.

''(10) VEHICLE REGISTRATION.—The term 'vehicle registration' means the registration of any commercial motor vehicle under the International Registration Plan or any other registration law or regulation of a jurisdiction.

''(b) APPLICABILITY OF PROVISIONS TO FREIGHT FORWARDERS.—A Freight forwarder that operates commercial motor vehicles and is not required to register as a carrier pursuant to section 13903(b) of this title shall be subject to the provisions of this section as if a motor carrier.

''(c) UNREASONABLE BURDEN.—For purposes of this section, it shall be considered an unreasonable burden upon interstate commerce for any State or any political subdivision of a State, or any political authority of 2 or more States—

''(1) to enact, impose, or enforce any requirement or standards, or levy any fee or charge on any interstate motor carrier or interstate motor private carrier in connection with—

''(A) the registration with the State of the interstate operations of a motor carrier or motor private carrier;

''(B) the filing with the State of information relating to the financial responsibility of a motor carrier or motor private carrier pursuant to sections 31138 or 31139 of this title;

''(C) the filing with the State of the name of the local agent for service of process of a motor carrier or motor private carrier pursuant to sections 503 or 13304 of this title; or

''(D) the annual renewal of the intrastate authority, or the insurance filings, of a motor carrier or motor private carrier, or other intrastate filing requirement necessary to operate within the State, if the motor carrier or motor private carrier is—

''(i) registered in compliance with section 13902 or section 13905(b) of this title; and

''(ii) in compliance with the laws and regulations of the State authorizing the carrier to operate in the State pursuant to section 14501(c)(2)(A) of this title

except with respect to—

''(I) intrastate service provided by motor carriers of passengers that is not subject to the preemptive provisions of section 14501(a) of this title,

''(II) motor carriers of property, motor private carriers, brokers, or freight forwarders, or their services or operations, that are described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 14501(c)(2) and section 14506(c)(3) or permitted pursuant to section 14506(b) of this title, and

''(III) the intrastate transportation of waste or recycables by any carrier); or

''(2) to require any interstate motor carrier or motor private carrier to pay any fee or tax, not proscribed by paragraph (1)(D) of this subsection, that a motor carrier or motor private carrier that pays a fee which is proscribed by that paragraph is not required to pay.

''(d) UNIFIED CARRIER REGISTRATION PLAN.—

''(1) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

''(A) GOVERNANCE OF PLAN.—The Unified Carrier Registration Plan shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of representatives of the Department of Transportation, Participating States, and the motor carrier industry.

''(B) NUMBER.—The Board shall consist of 15 directors.

''(C) COMPOSITION.—The Board shall be composed of directors appointed as follows:

''(i) FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall appoint 1 director from each of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's 4 Service Areas (as those areas were defined by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration on January 1, 2003), from among the chief administrative officers of the State agencies responsible for overseeing the administration of the UCR Agreement.

''(ii) STATE AGENCIES.—The Secretary shall appoint 5 directors from the professional staffs of State agencies responsible for overseeing the administration of the UCR Agreement in their respective States. Nominees for these 5 directorships shall be submitted to the Secretary by the national association of professional employees of the State agencies responsible for overseeing the administration of the UCR Agreement in their respective States.

''(iii) MOTOR CARRIER INDUSTRY.—The Secretary shall appoint 5 directors from the motor carrier industry. At least 1 of the appointees shall be an employee of the national trade association representing the general motor carrier of property industry.

''(iv) DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.—The Secretary shall appoint the Deputy Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, or such other presidential appointee from the United States Department of Transportation, as the Secretary may designate, to serve as a director.

''(D) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON.—The Secretary shall designate 1 director as Chairperson and 1 director as Vice-Chairperson of the Board. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall serve in such capacity for the term of their appointment as directors.

''(E) TERM.—In appointing the initial Board, the Secretary shall designate 5 of the appointed directors for initial terms of 3 years, 5 of the appointed directors for initial terms of 2 years, and 5 of the appointed directors for initial terms of 1 year. Thereafter, all directors shall be appointed for terms of 3 years, except that the term of the Deputy Administrator or other individual designated by the Secretary under subparagraph (C)(iv) shall be at the discretion of the Secretary. A director may be appointed to succeed himself or herself. A director may continue to serve on the Board until his or her successor is appointed.

''(2) RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE UCR AGREEMENT.—The Board of Directors shall develop the rules and regulations to govern the UCR Agreement and submit such rules and regulations to the Secretary for approval and adoption. The rules and regulations shall—

''(A) prescribe uniform forms and formats, for—

''(i) the annual submission of the information required by a Base-State of a motor carrier, motor private carrier, leasing company, broker, or freight forwarder;

''(ii) the transmission of information by a Participating State to the Unified Carrier Registration System;

''(iii) the payment of excess fees by a State to the designated depository and the distribution of fees by the depository to those States so entitled; and

''(iv) the providing of notice by a motor carrier, motor private carrier, broker, freight forwarder, or leasing company to the Board of the intent of such entity to change its Base-State, and the procedures for a State to object to such a change under subparagraph (C) of this paragraph;

''(B) provide for the administration of the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement, including procedures for amending the Agreement and obtaining clarification of any provision of the Agreement;

''(C) provide procedures for dispute resolution that provide due process for all involved parties; and

''(D) designate a depository.

''(3) COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES.—Except for the representative of the Department of Transportation appointed pursuant to paragraph 1(D), no director shall receive any compensation or other benefits from the Federal Government for serving on the Board or be considered a Federal employee as a result of such service. All Directors shall be reimbursed for expenses they incur attending duly called meetings of the Board. In addition, the Board may approve the reimbursement of expenses incurred by members of any subcommittee or task force appointed pursuant to paragraph (5). The reimbursement of expenses to directors and subcommittee and task force members shall be based on the then applicable rules of the General Service Administration governing reimbursement of expenses for travel by Federal employees.

''(4) MEETINGS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall meet at least once per year. Additional meetings may be called, as needed, by the Chairperson of the Board, a majority of the directors, or the Secretary.

''(B) QUORUM.—A majority of directors shall constitute a quorum.

''(C) VOTING.—Approval of any matter before the Board shall require the approval of a majority of all directors present at the meeting.

''(D) OPEN MEETINGS.—Meetings of the Board and any subcommittees or task forces appointed pursuant to paragraph (5) of this section shall be subject to the provisions of section 552b of title 5.

''(5) SUBCOMMITTEES.—

''(A) INDUSTRY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE.—The Chairperson shall appoint an Industry Advisory Subcommittee. The Industry Advisory Subcommittee shall consider any matter before the Board and make recommendations to the Board.

''(B) OTHER SUBCOMMITTEES.—The Chairperson shall appoint an Audit Subcommittee, a Dispute Resolution Subcommittee, and any additional subcommittees and task forces that the Board determines to be necessary.

''(C) MEMBERSHIP.—The chairperson of each subcommittee shall be a director. The other members of subcommittees and task forces may be directors or non-directors.

''(D) REPRESENTATION ON SUBCOMMITTEES.—Except for the Industry Advisory Subcommittee (the membership of which shall consist solely of representatives of entities subject to the fee requirements of subsection (f) of this section), each subcommittee and task force shall include representatives of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the Participating States, and the motor carrier industry.

''(6) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.—The Board may contract with any private commercial or non-profit entity or any agency of a State to perform administrative functions required under the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement, but may not delegate its decision or policy-making responsibilities.

''(7) DETERMINATION OF FEES.—The Board shall determine the annual fees to be assessed carriers, leasing companies, brokers, and freight forwarders pursuant to the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement. In determining the level of fees to be assessed in the next Agreement year, the Board shall consider—

''(A) the administrative costs associated with the Unified Carrier Registration Plan and the Agreement;

''(B) whether the revenues generated in the previous year and any surplus or shortage from that or prior years enable the Participating States to achieve the revenue levels set by the Board; and

''(C) the parameters for fees set forth in subsection (f)(1).

''(8) LIABILITY PROTECTIONS FOR DIRECTORS.—No individual appointed to serve on the Board shall be liable to any other director or to any other party for harm, either economic or non-economic, caused by an act or omission of the individual arising from the individual's service on the Board if—

''(A) the individual was acting within the scope of his or her responsibilities as a director; and

''(B) the harm was not caused by willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence, reckless misconduct, or a conscious, flagrant indifference to the right or safety of the party harmed by the individual.

''(9) INAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Unified Carrier Registration Plan or its committees.

''(10) CERTAIN FEES NOT AFFECTED.—This section does not limit the amount of money a State may charge for vehicle registration or the amount of any fuel use tax a State may impose pursuant to the International Fuel Tax Agreement.

''(e) STATE PARTICIPATION.—

''(1) STATE PLAN.—No State shall be eligible to participate in the Unified Carrier Registration Plan or to receive any revenues derived under the Agreement, unless the State submits to the Secretary, not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2004, a plan—

''(A) identifying the State agency that has or will have the legal authority, resources, and qualified personnel necessary to administer the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Directors of the Unified Carrier Registration Plan; and

''(B) containing assurances that an amount at least equal to the revenue derived by the State from the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement shall be used for motor carrier safety programs, enforcement, and financial responsibility, or the administration of the UCR Plan and UCR Agreement.

''(2) AMENDED PLANS.—A State may change the agency designated in the plan submitted under this subsection by filing an amended plan with the Secretary and the Chairperson of the Unified Carrier Registration Plan.

''(3) WITHDRAWAL OF PLAN.—In the event a State withdraws, or notifies the Secretary that it is withdrawing, the plan submitted under this subsection, the State may no longer participate in the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement or receive any portion of the revenues derived under the Agreement.

''(4) TERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY.—If a State fails to submit a plan to the Secretary as required by paragraph (1) or withdraws its plan under paragraph (3), the State shall be prohibited from subsequently submitting or resubmitting a plan or participating in the Agreement.

''(5) PROVISION OF PLAN TO CHAIRPERSON.—The Secretary shall provide a copy of each plan submitted under this subsection to the initial Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Unified Carrier Registration Plan not later than 90 days of appointing the Chairperson.

''(f) CONTENTS OF UNIFIED CARRIER REGISTRATION AGREEMENT.—The Unified Carrier Registration Agreement shall provide the following:

''(1) DETERMINATION OF FEES.—

''(A) Fees charged motor carriers, motor private carriers, or freight forwarders in connection with the filing of proof of financial responsibility under the UCR Agreement shall be based on the number of commercial motor vehicles owned or operated by the motor carrier, motor private carrier, or freight forwarder. Brokers and leasing companies shall pay the same fees as the smallest bracket of motor carriers, motor private carriers, and freight forwarders.

''(B) The fees shall be determined by the Board with the approval of the Secretary.

''(C) The Board shall develop no more than 6 and no less than 4 ranges of carriers by size of fleet.

''(D) The fee scale shall be progressive and use different vehicle ratios for different ranges of carrier fleet size.

''(E) The Board may adjust the fees within a reasonable range on an annual basis if the revenues derived from the fees—

''(i) are insufficient to provide the revenues to which the States are entitled under this section; or

''(ii) exceed those revenues.

''(2) DETERMINATION OF OWNERSHIP OR OPERATION.—Commercial motor vehicles owned or operated by a motor carrier, motor private carrier, or freight forwarder shall mean those commercial motor vehicles registered in the name of the motor carrier, motor private carrier, or freight forwarder or controlled by the motor carrier, motor private carrier, or freight forwarder under a long term lease during a vehicle registration year.

''(3) CALCULATION OF NUMBER OF COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES OWNED OR OPERATED.—The number of commercial motor vehicles owned or operated by a motor carrier, motor private carrier, or freight forwarder for purposes of subsection (e)(1) shall be based either on the number of commercial motor vehicles the motor carrier, motor private carrier, or freight forwarder has indicated it operates on its most recently filed MCS–150 or the total number of such vehicles it owned or operated for the 12-month period ending on June 30 of the year immediately prior to the each registration year of the Unified Carrier Registration System.

''(4) PAYMENT OF FEES.—Motor carriers, motor private carriers, leasing companies, brokers, and freight forwarders shall pay all fees required under this section to their Base-State pursuant to the UCR Agreement.

''(g) PAYMENT OF FEES.—Revenues derived under the UCR Agreement shall be allocated to Participating States as follows:

''(1) A State that participated in the Single State Registration System in the last calendar year ending before the date of enactment of the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2004 and complies with the requirements of subsection (e) of this section is entitled to receive a portion of the UCR Agreement revenues generated under the Agreement equivalent to the revenues it received under the SSRS in the last calendar year ending before the date of enactment of the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2004, as long as the State continues to comply with the provisions of subsection (e).

''(2) A State that collected intrastate registration fees from interstate motor carriers, interstate motor private carriers, or interstate exempt carriers and complies with the requirements of subsection (e) of this section is entitled to receive an additional portion of the UCR Agreement revenues generated under the Agreement equivalent to the revenues it received from such interstate carriers in the last calendar year ending before the date of enactment of the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2004, as long as the State continues to comply with the provisions of subsection (e).

''(3) States that comply with the requirements of subsection (e) of this section but did not participate in SSRS during the last calendar year ending before the date of enactment of the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2004 shall be entitled to an annual allotment not to exceed $500,000 from the UCR Agreement revenues generated under the Agreement as long as the State continues to comply with the provisions of subsection (e).

''(4) The amount of UCR Agreement revenues to which a State is entitled under this section shall be calculated by the Board and approved by the Secretary.

''(h) DISTRIBUTION OF UCR AGREEMENT REVENUES.—

''(1) ELIGIBILITY.—Each State that is in compliance with the provisions of subsection (e) shall be entitled to a portion of the revenues derived from the UCR Agreement in accordance with subsection (g).

''(2) ENTITLEMENT TO REVENUES.—A State that is in compliance with the provisions of subsection (e) may retain an amount of the gross revenues it collects from motor carriers, motor private carriers, brokers, freight forwarders and leasing companies under the UCR Agreement equivalent to the portion of revenues to which the State is entitled under subsection (g). All revenues a Participating State collects in excess of the amount to which the State is so entitled shall be forwarded to the depository designated by the Board under subsection (d)(2)(D).

''(3) DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS FROM DEPOSITORY.—The excess funds collected in the depository shall be distributed as follows:

''(A) Excess funds shall be distributed on a pro rata basis to each Participating State that did not collect revenues under the UCR Agreement equivalent to the amount such State is entitled under subsection (g), except that the sum of the gross UCR Agreement revenues collected by a Participating State and the amount distributed to it from the depository shall not exceed the amount to which the State is entitled under subsection (g).

''(B) Any excess funds held by the depository after all distributions under subparagraph (A) have been made shall be used to pay the administrative costs of the UCR Plan and the UCR Agreement.

''(C) Any excess funds held by the depository after distributions and payments under subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall be retained in the depository, and the UCR Agreement fees for motor carriers, motor private carriers, leasing companies, freight forwarders, and brokers for the next fee year shall be reduced by the Board accordingly.

''(i) ENFORCEMENT.—

''(1) CIVIL ACTIONS.—Upon request by the Secretary of Transportation, the Attorney General may bring a civil action in a court of competent

jurisdiction to enforce compliance with this section and with the terms of the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement.

''(2) VENUE.—An action under this section may be brought only in the Federal court sitting in the State in which an order is required to enforce such compliance.

''(3) RELIEF.—Subject to section 1341 of title 28, the court, on a proper showing—

''(A) shall issue a temporary restraining order or a preliminary or permanent injunction; and

''(B) may issue an injunction requiring that the State or any person comply with this section.

''(4) ENFORCEMENT BY STATES.—Nothing in this section—

''(A) prohibits a Participating State from issuing citations and imposing reasonable fines and penalties pursuant to applicable State laws and regulations on any motor carrier, motor private carrier, freight forwarder, broker, or leasing company for failure to—

''(i) submit documents as required under subsection (d)(2); or

''(ii) pay the fees required under subsection (f); or

''(B) authorizes a State to require a motor carrier, motor private carrier, or freight forwarder to display as evidence of compliance any form of identification in excess of those permitted under section 14506 of this title on or in a commercial motor vehicle.

''(j) APPLICATION TO INTRASTATE CARRIERS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a State may elect to apply the provisions of the UCR Agreement to motor carriers and motor private carriers subject to its jurisdiction that operate solely in intrastate commerce within the borders of the State.''.

SEC. 4266. IDENTIFICATION OF VEHICLES.

Chapter 145 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 14506. Identification of vehicles

''(a) RESTRICTION ON REQUIREMENTS.—No State, political subdivision of a State, interstate agency, or other political agency of 2 or more States may enact or enforce any law, rule, regulation standard, or other provision having the force and effect of law that requires a motor carrier, motor private carrier, freight forwarder, or leasing company to display any form of identification on or in a commercial motor vehicle, other than forms of identification required by the Secretary of Transportation under section 390.21 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.

''(b) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a State may continue to require display of credentials that are required—

''(1) under the International Registration Plan under section 31704 of this title;

''(2) under the International Fuel Tax Agreement under section 31705 of this title;

''(3) in connection with Federal requirements for hazardous materials transportation under section 5103 of this title; or

''(4) in connection with the Federal vehicle inspection standards under section 31136 of this title.''.

SEC. 4267. USE OF UCR AGREEMENT REVENUES AS MATCHING FUNDS.

Section 31103(a) is amended by inserting ''Amounts generated by the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement, under section 14504a of this title and received by a State and used for motor carrier safety purposes may be included as part of the State's share not provided by the United States.'' after ''United States Government.''.

SEC. 4268. CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.

(a) SECTION 13906 CAPTION.—The section caption for section 13906 is amended by inserting ''**motor private carriers,**'' after ''**motor carriers,**''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The chapter analysis for chapter 139 is amended by striking the item relating to section 13906 and inserting the following:

''13906. Security of motor carriers, motor private carriers, brokers, and freight forwarders.''.

Subtitle C—Household Goods Movers

SEC. 4301. SHORT TITLE; AMENDMENT OF TITLE 49, UNITED STATES CODE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This subtitle may be cited as the ''Household Goods Mover Oversight Enforcement and Reform Act of 2004''.

(b) AMENDMENT OF TITLE 49, UNITED STATES CODE.—Except as otherwise specifically provided, whenever in this subtitle an amendment is expressed in terms of an amendment to a section or other provision of law, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 4302. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) There are approximately 1,500,000 interstate household moves every year. While the vast majority of these interstate moves are completed successfully, consumer complaints have been increasing since the Interstate Commerce Commission was abolished in 1996 and oversight of the household goods industry was transferred to the Department of Transportation.

(2) While the overwhelming majority of household goods carriers are honest and operate within the law, there appears to be a growing criminal element that is exploiting a perceived void in Federal and State enforcement efforts. The growing criminal element tends to prey upon consumers.

(3) The movement of an individual's household goods is unique and differs from the movement of a commercial shipment. A consumer may utilize a moving company once or twice in the consumer's lifetime and entrust virtually all of the consumer's worldly goods to a mover.

(4) Federal resources are inadequate to properly police or deter, on a nationwide basis, those movers who willfully violate Federal regulations governing the household goods industry and knowingly prey on consumers who are in a vulnerable position. It is appropriate that a Federal-State partnership be created to enhance enforcement against fraudulent moving companies.

SEC. 4303. DEFINITIONS.

In this title, the terms ''carrier'', ''household goods'', ''motor carrier'', ''Secretary'', and ''transportation'' have the meaning given such terms in section 13102 of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 4304. PAYMENT OF RATES.

Section 13707(b) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) SHIPMENTS OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A carrier providing transportation for a shipment of household goods shall give up possession of the household goods transported at the destination upon payment of—

''(i) 100 percent of the charges contained in a binding estimate provided by the carrier;

''(ii) not more than 110 percent of the charges contained in a nonbinding estimate provided by the carrier; or

''(iii) in the case of a partial delivery of the shipment, the prorated percentage of the charges calculated in accordance with subparagraph (B).

''(B) CALCULATION OF PRORATED CHARGES.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii), the prorated percentage of the charges shall be the percentage of the total charges due to the carrier as described in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) that is equal to the percentage of the weight of that portion of the shipment delivered to the total weight of the shipment.

''(C) POST-CONTRACT SERVICES.—Subparagraph (A) does not apply to additional services requested by a shipper after the contract of service is executed that were not included in the estimate.

''(D) IMPRACTICABLE OPERATIONS.—Subparagraph (A) does apply to impracticable operations, as defined by the applicable carrier tariff, if the shipper agrees to pay the charges for such operations within 30 days after the goods are delivered.''.

SEC. 4305. HOUSEHOLD GOODS CARRIER OPERATIONS.

Section 14104 is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (1) of subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(1) REQUIREMENT FOR WRITTEN ESTIMATE.—A motor carrier providing transportation of household goods subject to jurisdiction under subchapter I of chapter 135 shall provide to a prospective shipper a written estimate of all charges related to the transportation of the household goods, including charges for—

''(A) packing;

''(B) unpacking;

''(C) loading;

''(D) unloading; and

''(E) handling of the shipment from the point of origin to the final destination (whether that destination is storage or transit).'';

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) of such subsection as paragraph (4); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1), as amended by paragraph (1), the following:

''(2) OTHER INFORMATION.—At the time that a motor carrier provides the written estimate required by paragraph (1), the motor carrier shall provide the shipper a copy of the Department of Transportation publication FMCSA–ESA–03–005 (or its successor edition or publication) entitled 'Ready to Move?'. Before the execution of a contract for service, a motor carrier shall provide the shipper a copy of the Department of Transportation publication OCE 100, entitled 'Your Rights and Responsibilities When You Move' required by section 375.2 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or any corresponding similar regulation).

''(3) BINDING AND NONBINDING ESTIMATES.—The written estimate required by paragraph (1) may be either binding or nonbinding. The written estimate shall be based on a visual inspection of the household goods if the household goods are located within a 50-mile radius of the location of the carrier's household goods agent preparing the estimate. The Secretary may not prohibit any such carrier from charging a prospective shipper for providing a written, binding estimate for the transportation and related services.'';

(4) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (e); and

(5) by inserting after subsection (b), as amended by paragraphs (1) and (2), the following:

''(c) NOTIFICATION OF FINAL CHARGES.—If the final charges for a shipment of household goods exceed 100 percent of a binding estimate or 110 percent of a nonbinding estimate, the motor carrier shall provide the shipper an itemized statement of the charges. The statement shall be provided to the shipper within 24 hours prior to the delivery of the shipment unless the shipper waives this requirement or the shipper cannot be reached by fax, regular mail, or electronic mail. Such notification shall—

''(1) be delivered in writing at the motor carrier's expense; and

''(2) disclose the requirements of section 13707(b)(3) of this title regarding payment for delivery of a shipment of household goods.

''(d) REQUIREMENT FOR INVENTORY.—A motor carrier providing transportation of a shipment of household goods, as defined in section 13102(10), that is subject to jurisdiction under subchapter I of chapter 135 of this title shall, before or at the time of loading the shipment, prepare a written inventory of all articles tendered and accepted by the motor carrier for transportation. Such inventory shall—

''(1) list or otherwise reasonably identify each item tendered for transportation;

''(2) be signed by the shipper and the motor carrier, or the agent of the shipper or carrier, at the time the shipment is loaded and at the time the shipment is unloaded at the final destination;

''(3) be attached to, and considered part of, the bill of lading; and

''(4) be subject to the same requirements of the Secretary for record inspection and preservation that apply to bills of lading.''.

SEC. 4306. LIABILITY OF CARRIERS UNDER RECEIPTS AND BILLS OF LADING.

Section 14706(f) is amended—

(1) by resetting the text as a paragraph indented 2 ems from the left margin and inserting ''(1) IN GENERAL.—'' before ''A carrier''; and

(2) by adding at the end, the following:

''(2) FULL VALUE PROTECTION OBLIGATION.—Unless the carrier receives a waiver in writing under paragraph (3), a carrier's maximum liability for household goods that are lost, damaged, destroyed, or otherwise not delivered to the final destination is an amount equal to the replacement value of such goods, subject to a maximum amount equal to the declared value of the shipment, subject to rules issued by the Surface Transportation Board and applicable tariffs.

''(3) APPLICATION OF RATES.—The released rates established by the Board under paragraph (1) (commonly known as 'released rates') shall not apply to the transportation of household goods by a carrier unless the liability of the carrier for the full value of such household goods under paragraph (2) is waived in writing by the shipper.''.

SEC. 4307. DISPUTE SETTLEMENT FOR SHIPMENTS OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 14708(a) is amended—

(1) by resetting the text as a paragraph indented 2 ems from the left margin and inserting ''(1) REQUIREMENT TO OFFER.—'' before ''As a condition''; and

(2) by striking ''shippers of household goods concerning damage or loss to the household goods transported.'' and inserting ''shippers. The carrier may not require the shipper to agree to use arbitration as a means to settle such a dispute.''; and

(3) by inserting at the end, the following:

''(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR CARRIERS.—If a dispute with a carrier providing transportation of household goods involves a claim that is—

''(A) not more than $10,000 and the shipper requests arbitration, such arbitration shall be binding on the parties; or

''(B) for more than $10,000 and the shipper requests arbitration, such arbitration shall be binding on the parties only if the carrier agrees to arbitration.''.

(b) ARBITRATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 14708(b) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

''(4) INDEPENDENCE OF ARBITRATOR.—The Secretary shall establish a system for the certification of persons authorized to arbitrate or otherwise settle a dispute between a shipper of household goods and a carrier. The Secretary shall ensure that each person so certified is—

''(A) independent of the parties to the dispute;

''(B) capable, as determined under such regulations as the Secretary may issue, to resolve such disputes fairly and expeditiously; and

''(C) authorized and able to obtain from the shipper or carrier any material and relevant information to the extent necessary to carry out a fair and expeditious decisionmaking process.'';

(B) by striking paragraph (6); and

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (7) and (8) as paragraphs (6) and (7), respectively.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 14708(d)(3)(A) is amended by striking ''(b)(8)'' and inserting ''(b)(7)''.

(c) ATTORNEY'S FEES TO CARRIERS.—Section 14708(e) is further amended by striking ''only if'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting ''if—

''(1) the court proceeding is to enforce a decision rendered in favor of the carrier through arbitration under this section and is instituted after the shipper has a reasonable opportunity to pay any charges required by such decision; or

''(2) the shipper brought such action in bad faith—

''(A) after resolution of such dispute through arbitration under this section; or

''(B) after institution of an arbitration proceeding by the shipper to resolve such dispute under this section but before—

''(i) the period provided under subsection (b)(7) for resolution of such dispute (including, if applicable, an extension of such period under such subsection) ends; and

''(ii) a decision resolving such dispute is rendered.''.

(d) REVIEW AND REPORT ON DISPUTE SETTLEMENT PROGRAMS.—

(1) REVIEW AND REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall complete a review of the outcomes and the effectiveness of the programs carried out under title 49, United States Code, to settle disputes between motor carriers and shippers and submit a report on the review to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The report shall describe—

(A) the subject of, and amounts at issue is, the disputes;

(B) patterns in disputes or settlements;

(C) the prevailing party in disputes, if identifiable; and

(D) any other matters the Secretary considers appropriate.

(2) REQUIREMENT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.—The Secretary shall publish notice of the review required by paragraph (1) and provide an opportunity for the public to submit comments on the effectiveness of such programs. Notwithstanding any confidentiality or non-disclosure provision in a settlement agreement between a motor carrier and a shipper, it shall not be a violation of that provision for a motor carrier or shipper to submit a copy of the settlement agreement, or to provide information included in the agreement, to the Secretary for use in evaluating dispute settlement programs under this subsection. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in section 552 of title 5, United States Code, the Secretary may not post on the Department of Transportation's electronic docket system, or make available to any requester in paper or electronic format, any information submitted to the Secretary by a motor carrier or shipper under the preceding sentence. The Secretary shall use the settlement agreements or other information submitted by a motor carrier or shipper solely to evaluate the effectiveness of dispute settlement programs and shall not include in the report required by this subsection the names or, or other identifying information concerning, motor carriers or shippers that submitted comments or information under this subsection.

SEC. 4308. ENFORCEMENT OF REGULATIONS RELATED TO TRANSPORTATION OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

(a) NONPREEMPTION OF INTRASTATE TRANSPORTATION OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS.—Section 14501(c)(2)(B) is amended by inserting ''intrastate'' before ''transportation''.

(b) ENFORCEMENT OF FEDERAL LAW WITH RESPECT TO INTERSTATE HOUSEHOLD GOODS CARRIERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 147 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 14710. Enforcement of Federal laws and regulations with respect to transportation of household goods

''(a) ENFORCEMENT BY STATES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a State authority may enforce the consumer protection provisions, as determined by the Secretary of Transportation, of this title that are related to the transportation of household goods in interstate commerce. Any fine or penalty imposed on a carrier in a proceeding under this subsection shall, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, be paid to and retained by the State.

''(b) STATE AUTHORITY DEFINED.—The term 'State authority' means an agency of a State that has authority under the laws of the State to regulate the intrastate movement of household goods.

''§ 14711. Enforcement by State attorneys general

''(a) IN GENERAL.—A State, as parens patriae, may bring a civil action on behalf of its residents in an appropriate district court of the United States to enforce the consumer protection provisions, as determined by the Secretary of Transportation, of this title that are related to the transportation of household goods in interstate commerce, or regulations or orders of the Secretary or the Board thereunder, or to impose the civil penalties authorized by this part or such regulation or order, whenever the attorney general of the State has reason to believe that the interests of the residents of the State have been or are being threatened or adversely affected by a carrier or broker providing transportation subject to jurisdiction under subchapter I or III of chapter 135 of this title, or a foreign motor carrier providing transportation registered under section 13902 of this title, that is engaged in household goods transportation that violates this part or a regulation or order of the Secretary or Board, as applicable, promulgated under this part.

''(b) NOTICE.—The State shall serve written notice to the Secretary or the Board, as the case may be, of any civil action under subsection (a) prior to initiating such civil action. The notice shall include a copy of the complaint to be filed to initiate such civil action, except that if it is not feasible for the State to provide such prior notice, the State shall provide such notice immediately upon instituting such civil action.

''(c) AUTHORITY TO INTERVENE.—Upon receiving the notice required by subsection (b), the Secretary or Board may intervene in such civil action and upon intervening—

''(1) be heard on all matters arising in such civil action; and

''(2) file petitions for appeal of a decision in such civil action.

''(d) CONSTRUCTION.—For purposes of bringing any civil action under subsection (a), nothing in this section shall prevent the attorney general of a State from exercising the powers conferred on the attorney general by the laws of such State to conduct investigations or to administer oaths or affirmations or to compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary and other evidence.

''(e) VENUE; SERVICE OF PROCESS.—In a civil action brought under subsection (a)—

''(1) the venue shall be a judicial district in which—

''(A) the carrier, foreign motor carrier, or broker operates;

''(B) the carrier, foreign motor carrier, or broker was authorized to provide transportation at the time the complaint arose; or

''(C) where the defendant in the civil action is found;

''(2) process may be served without regard to the territorial limits of the district or of the State in which the civil action is instituted; and

''(3) a person who participated with a carrier or broker in an alleged violation that is being litigated in the civil action may be joined in the civil action without regard to the residence of the person.

''(f) ENFORCEMENT OF STATE LAW.—Nothing contained in this section shall prohibit an authorized State official from proceeding in State court to enforce a criminal statute of such State.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 147 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 14709 the following:

''14710. Enforcement of Federal laws and regulations with respect to transportation of household goods.

''14711. Enforcement by State attorneys general.''.

SEC. 4309. WORKING GROUP FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES TO ENHANCE FEDERAL-STATE RELATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a working group of State attorneys general, State authorities that regulate the movement of household goods, and Federal and local law enforcement officials for the purpose of developing practices and procedures to enhance the Federal-State partnership in enforcement efforts, exchange of information, and coordination of enforcement efforts with respect to interstate transportation of household goods and making legislative and regulatory recommendations to the Secretary concerning such enforcement efforts.

(b) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out subsection (a), the working group shall consult with industries involved in the transportation of household goods, the public, and other interested parties.

SEC. 4310. CONSUMER HANDBOOK ON DOT WEBSITE.

Within 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall take such action as may be necessary to ensure that the Department of Transportation publication OCE 100, entitled ''Your Rights and Responsibilities When You Move'' required by section 375.2 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or any corresponding similar regulation), is prominently displayed, and available in language that is readily understandable by the general public, on the website of the Department of Transportation.

SEC. 4311. INFORMATION ABOUT HOUSEHOLD GOODS TRANSPORTATION ON CARRIERS' WEBSITES.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall modify the regulations contained in part 375 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, to require a motor carrier or broker that is subject to such regulations and that establishes and maintains a website to prominently display on the website—

(1) the number assigned to the motor carrier or broker by the Department of Transportation;

(2) the OCE 100 publication referred to in section 4310; and

(3) in the case of a broker, a list of all motor carriers providing transportation of household goods used by the broker and a statement that the broker is not a motor carrier providing transportation of household goods.

SEC. 4312. CONSUMER COMPLAINTS.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR DATABASE.—Subchapter II of chapter 141 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 14124. Consumer complaints

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF SYSTEM AND DATABASE.—The Secretary of Transportation shall—

''(1) establish a system to—

''(A) file and log a complaint made by a shipper that relates to motor carrier transportation of household goods; and

''(B) to solicit information gathered by a State regarding the number and type of complaints involving the interstate transportation of household goods;

''(2) establish a database of such complaints; and

''(3) develop a procedure—

''(A) to provide the public access to the database;

''(B) to forward a complaint, including the motor carrier bill of lading number related to the complaint to a motor carrier named in such complaint and to an appropriate State authority (as defined in section 14710(c) in the State in which the complainant resides; and

''(C) to permit a motor carrier to challenge information in the database.

''(b) REQUIREMENT FOR ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations requiring a motor carrier that provides transportation of household goods to submit to the Secretary, not later than March 31st of each year, an annual report covering the 12-month period ending on the preceding March 31st that includes—

''(1) the number of interstate shipments of household goods that the motor carrier received from shippers and that were delivered to a final destination during the preceding calendar year;

''(2) the number and general category of complaints lodged against the motor carrier during the preceding calendar year;

''(3) the number of shipments described in paragraph (1) that resulted in the filing of a claim against the motor carrier for loss or damage to the shipment for an amount in excess of $500 during the preceding calendar year; and

''(4) the number of shipments described in paragraph (3) that were—

''(A) resolved during the preceding calendar year; or

''(B) pending on the last day of the preceding calendar year.

''(c) SUMMARY TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall transmit a summary each year of the complaints filed and logged under subsection (a) for the preceding calendar year to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 141 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 14123 the following:

''14124. Consumer complaints.''.

SEC. 4313. REVIEW OF LIABILITY OF CARRIERS.

(a) REVIEW.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Surface Transportation Board shall complete a review of the current Federal regulations regarding the level of liability protection provided by motor carriers that provide transportation of household goods and revise such regulations, if necessary, to provide enhanced protection in the case of loss or damage.

(b) DETERMINATIONS.—The review required by subsection (a) shall include a determination of—

(1) whether the current regulations provide adequate protection;

(2) the benefits of purchase by a shipper of insurance to supplement the carrier's limitations on liability;

(3) whether there are abuses of the current regulations that leave the shipper unprotected in the event of loss and damage to a shipment of household goods; and

(4) whether the section 14706 of title 49, United States Code, should be modified or repealed.

SEC. 4314. CIVIL PENALTIES RELATING TO HOUSEHOLD GOODS BROKERS.

Section 14901(d) is amended—

(1) by resetting the text as a paragraph indented 2 ems from the left margin and inserting ''(1) IN GENERAL.—'' before ''If a carrier''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) ESTIMATE OF BROKER WITHOUT CARRIER AGREEMENT.—If a broker for transportation of household goods subject to jurisdiction under subchapter I of chapter 135 of this title makes an estimate of the cost of transporting any such goods before entering into an agreement with a carrier to provide transportation of household goods subject to such jurisdiction, the broker is liable to the United States for a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 for each violation.

''(3) UNAUTHORIZED TRANSPORTATION.—If a person provides transportation of household goods subject to jurisdiction under subchapter I of chapter 135 this title or provides broker services for such transportation without being registered under chapter 139 of this title to provide such transportation or services as a motor carrier or broker, as the case may be, such person is liable to the United States for a civil penalty of not less than $25,000 for each violation.''.

SEC. 4315. CIVIL AND CRIMINAL PENALTY FOR FAILING TO GIVE UP POSSESSION OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 149 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 14915. Penalties for failure to give up possession of household goods

''(a) CIVIL PENALTY.—Whoever is found to have failed to give up possession of household goods is liable to the United States for a civil penalty of not less than $10,000. Each day a carrier is found to have failed to give up possession of household goods may constitute a separate violation. If such person is a carrier or broker, the Secretary may suspend for a period of not less than 6 months the registration of such carrier or broker under chapter 139 of this title.

''(b) CRIMINAL PENALTY.—Whoever has been convicted of having failed to give up possession of household goods shall be fined under title 18 or imprisoned for not more than 2 years, or both.

''(c) FAILURE TO GIVE UP POSSESSION OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term 'failed to give up possession of household goods' means the knowing and willful failure of a motor carrier to deliver to, or unload at, the destination of a shipment of household goods that is subject to jurisdiction under subchapter I or III of chapter 135 of this title, for which charges have been estimated by the motor carrier providing transportation of such goods, and for which the shipper has tendered a payment described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of section 13707(b)(3)(A) of this title.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

''14915. Penalties for failure to give up possession of household goods.''.

SEC. 4316. PROGRESS REPORT.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall transmit to Congress a report on the progress being made in implementing the provisions of this title.

SEC. 4317. ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MOTOR CARRIERS OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

Section 13902(a) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3);

(2) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5) and inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR HOUSEHOLD GOODS TRANSPORTATION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary may register a person to provide transportation of household goods (as defined in section 13102(10) of this title) only after that person—

''(A) provides evidence of participation in an arbitration program and provides a copy of the notice of that program as required by section 14708(b)(2) of this title;

''(B) identifies its tariff and provides a copy of the notice of the availability of that tariff for inspection as required by section 13702(c) of this title;

''(C) provides evidence that it has access to, has read, is familiar with, and will observe all laws relating to consumer protection, estimating, consumers' rights and responsibilities, and options for limitations of liability for loss and damage; and

''(D) discloses any relationship involving common stock, common ownership, common management, or common familial relationships between that person and any other motor carrier, freight forwarder, or broker of household goods within the past 3 years.

''(3) CONSIDERATION OF EVIDENCE; FINDINGS.—The Secretary shall consider, and, to the extent applicable, make findings on any evidence demonstrating that the registrant is unable to comply with any applicable requirement of paragraph (1) or, in the case of a registrant to which paragraph (2) applies, paragraph (1) or (2).

''(4) WITHHOLDING.—If the Secretary determines that a registrant under this section does not meet, or is not able to meet, any requirement of paragraph (1) or, in the case of a registrant to which paragraph (2) applies, paragraph (1) or (2), the Secretary shall withhold registration.''; and

(3) by adding at the end of paragraph (5), as redesignated, ''In the case of a registration for the transportation of household goods (as defined in section 13102(10 of this title), the Secretary may also hear a complaint on the ground that the registrant fails or will fail to comply with the requirements of paragraph (2) of this subsection.''.

Subtitle D—Hazardous Materials Transportation Safety and Security

SEC. 4401. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Hazardous Material Transportation Safety and Security Reauthorization Act of 2004''.

SEC. 4402. AMENDMENT OF TITLE 49, UNITED STATES CODE.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this subtitle an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of title 49, United States Code.

PART I—GENERAL AUTHORITIES ON TRANSPORTATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

SEC. 4421. PURPOSE.

The text of section 5101 is amended to read as follows:

''The purpose of this chapter is to protect against the risks to life, property, and the environment that are inherent in the transportation of hazardous material in intrastate, interstate, and foreign commerce.''.

SEC. 4422. DEFINITIONS.

Section 5102 is amended as follows:

(1) COMMERCE.—Paragraph (1) is amended—

(A) by striking ''or'' after the semicolon in subparagraph (A);

(B) by striking the ''State.'' in subparagraph (B) and inserting ''State; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) on a United States-registered aircraft.''.

(2) HAZMAT EMPLOYEE.—Paragraph (3) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) 'hazmat employee' means an individual—

''(A) who—

''(i) is employed or used by a hazmat employer; or

''(ii) is self-employed, including an owner-operator of a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft, transporting hazardous material in commerce; and

''(B) who performs a function regulated by the Secretary under section 5103(b)(1) of this title.''.

(3) HAZMAT EMPLOYER.—Paragraph (4) is amended to read as follows:

''(4) 'hazmat employer' means a person—

''(A) who—

''(i) employs or uses at least 1 hazmat employee; or

''(ii) is self-employed, including an owner-operator of a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft, transporting hazardous material in commerce; and

''(B) who performs, or employs or uses at least 1 hazmat employee to perform, a function regulated by the Secretary under section 5103(b)(1) of this title.''.

(4) IMMINENT HAZARD.—Paragraph (5) is amended by inserting ''relating to hazardous material'' after ''of a condition''.

(5) MOTOR CARRIER.—Paragraph (7) is amended to read as follows:

''(7) 'motor carrier'—

''(A) means a motor carrier, motor private carrier, and freight forwarder as those terms are defined in section 13102 of this title; but

''(B) does not include a freight forwarder, as so defined, if the freight forwarder is not performing a function relating to highway transportation.''.

(6) NATIONAL RESPONSE TEAM.—Paragraph (8) is amended—

(A) by striking ''national response team'' both places it appears and inserting ''National Response Team''; and

(B) by striking ''national contingency plan'' and inserting ''National Contingency Plan''.

(7) PERSON.—Paragraph (9)(A) is amended by striking ''offering'' and all that follows and inserting ''that—

''(i) offers hazardous material for transportation in commerce;

''(ii) transports hazardous material to further a commercial enterprise; or

''(iii) manufactures, designs, inspects, tests, reconditions, marks, or repairs a packaging or packaging component that is represented as qualified for use in transporting hazardous material in commerce; but''.

(8) SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—Section 5101 is further amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (11), (12), and (13), as paragraphs (12), (13), and (14), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (10) the following:

''(11) 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Transportation except as otherwise provided.''.

SEC. 4423. GENERAL REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

(a) REFERENCE TO SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—Section 5103(a) is amended by striking ''of Transportation''.

(b) DESIGNATING MATERIAL AS HAZARDOUS.—Section 5103(a) is further amended—

(1) by striking ''etiologic agent'' and all that follows through ''corrosive material,'' and inserting ''infectious substance, flammable or combustible liquid, solid, or gas, toxic, oxidizing, or corrosive material,''; and

(2) by striking ''decides'' and inserting ''determines''.

(c) REGULATIONS FOR SAFE TRANSPORTATION.—Section 5103(b)(1)(A) is amended to read as follows:

''(A) apply to a person who—

''(i) transports hazardous material in commerce;

''(ii) causes hazardous material to be transported in commerce;

''(iii) manufactures, designs, inspects, tests, reconditions, marks, or repairs a packaging or packaging component that is represented as qualified for use in transporting hazardous material in commerce;

''(iv) prepares or accepts hazardous material for transportation in commerce;

''(v) is responsible for the safety of transporting hazardous material in commerce;

''(vi) certifies compliance with any requirement under this chapter;

''(vii) misrepresents whether such person is engaged in any activity under clause (i) through (vi) of this subparagraph; or

''(viii) performs any other act or function relating to the transportation of hazardous material in commerce; and''.

(d) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT REGARDING CONSULTATION.—Section 5103 is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b)(1)(C); and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) CONSULTATION.—When prescribing a security regulation or issuing a security order that affects the safety of the transportation of hazardous material, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall consult with the Secretary of Transportation.''.

SEC. 4424. LIMITATION ON ISSUANCE OF HAZMAT LICENSES.

(a) REFERENCE TO SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—Section 5103a is amended by striking ''of Transportation'' each place it appears in subsections (a)(1), (c)(1)(B), and (d) and inserting ''of Homeland Security''.

(b) COVERED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.—Section 5103a(b) is amended by striking ''with respect to—'' and all that follows and inserting ''with respect to any material defined as hazardous material by the Secretary for which the Secretary requires placarding of a commercial motor vehicle transporting that material in commerce.''.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS ON CHEMICAL OR BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS.—Section 5103a is further amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c), (d), and (e) as subsections (d), (e), and (f), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) RECOMMENDATIONS ON CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall recommend to the Secretary any chemical or biological material or agent for regulation as a hazardous material under section 5103(a) of this title if the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines that such material or agent is a threat to the national security of the United States.''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5103a(a)(1) is amended by striking ''subsection (c)(1)(B),'' and inserting ''subsection (d)(1)(B),''.

SEC. 4425. REPRESENTATION AND TAMPERING.

(a) REPRESENTATION.—Section 5104(a) is amended—

(1) by striking ''a container,'' and all that follows through ''packaging) for'' and inserting ''a package, component of a package, or packaging for''; and

(2) by striking ''the container'' and all that follows through ''packaging) meets'' and inserting ''the package, component of a package, or packaging meets''.

(b) TAMPERING.—Section 5104(b) is amended—

(1) by inserting '', without authorization from the owner or custodian,'' after ''may not'';

(2) by striking ''unlawfully''; and

(3) by inserting ''component of a package, or packaging,'' after ''package,'' in paragraph (2).

SEC. 4426. TRANSPORTING CERTAIN HIGHLY RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL.

(a) REPEAL OF ROUTES AND MODES STUDY.—Section 5105 is amended by striking subsection (d).

(b) REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR INSPECTIONS OF CERTAIN MOTOR VEHICLES.—Section 5105 is amended by striking subsection (e).

SEC. 4427. HAZMAT EMPLOYEE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS AND GRANTS.

(a) REFERENCE TO SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—Section 5107 is amended by striking ''of Transportation'' each place it appears in subsections (a), (b), (c) (other than in paragraph (1)), (d), and (f).

(b) TRAINING GRANTS.—Section 5107(e) is amended—

(1) by striking ''section 5127(c)(3)'' and inserting ''section 5128(b)(1) of this title'';

(2) by inserting ''and, to the extent determined appropriate by the Secretary, grants for such instructors to train hazmat employees'' after ''employees'' in the first sentence thereof.

SEC. 4428. REGISTRATION.

(a) REFERENCE TO SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—Section 5108 is amended by striking ''of Transportation'' each place it appears in subsections (a), (b) (other than following ''Department''), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i).

(b) PERSONS REQUIRED TO FILE.—

(1) REQUIREMENT TO FILE.—Section 5108(a)(1)(B) is amended by striking ''class A or B explosive'' and inserting ''Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 explosive material''.

(2) AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE TO FILE.—Section 5108(a)(2)(B) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) a person manufacturing, designing, inspecting, testing, reconditioning, marking, or repairing a package or packaging component that is represented as qualified for use in transporting hazardous material in commerce.''.

(3) NO TRANSPORTATION WITHOUT FILING.—Section 5108(a)(3) is amended by striking ''fabricate,'' and all that follows through ''package or'' and inserting ''design, inspect, test, recondition, mark, or repair a package, packaging component, or''.

(c) FORM AND CONTENT OF FILINGS.—Section 5108(b)(1)(C) by striking ''the activity.'' and inserting ''any of the activities.''.

(d) FILING.—Section 5108(c) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) FILING.—Each person required to file a registration statement under subsection (a) of this section shall file the statement in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary.''.

(e) FEES.—Section 5108(g)(1) is amended by striking ''may establish,'' and inserting ''shall establish,''.

(f) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—Section 5108(i)(2)(B) is amended by inserting ''an Indian tribe,'' after ''subdivision of a State,''.

(g) REGISTRATION AND ANNUAL FEES.—

(1) REDUCTION IN CAP.—Section 5108(g)(2)(A) is amended by striking ''$5,000'' and inserting ''$2,000''.

(2) RULEMAKING.—Any rule, regulation, or order issued by the Secretary of Transportation under which the assessment, payment, or collection of fees under section 5108(g) of title 49, United States Code, was suspended or terminated before the date of enactment of this Act is declared null and void effective 30 days after such date of enactment. Beginning on the 31st day after such date of enactment, the fee schedule established by the Secretary and set forth at 65 Federal Register 7297 (as modified by the rule set forth at 67 Federal Register 58343) shall take effect and apply until such time as it may be modified by a rulemaking proceeding.

(3) PLANNING AND TRAINING GRANTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, including any limitation on the amount of grants authorized by section 5116 of title 49, United States Code, not contained in that section, the Secretary shall make grants under that section from the account established under section 5116(i) to reduce the balance in that account over the 6 fiscal year period beginning with fiscal year 2004, but in no fiscal year shall the grants distributed exceed the level authorized by section 5116 of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 4429. SHIPPING PAPERS AND DISCLOSURE.

(a) REFERENCE TO SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—Section 5110(a) is amended by striking ''of Transportation''.

(b) DISCLOSURE CONSIDERATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS.—Section 5110 is amended—

(1) by striking ''under subsection (b) of this section.'' in subsection (a) and inserting ''in regulations.'';

(2) by striking subsection (b); and

(3) by redesignating subsections (c), (d), and (e) as subsections (b), (c), and (d), respectively.

(c) RETENTION OF PAPERS.—The first sentence of section 5110(d), as redesignated by subsection (b)(3) of this section, is amended to read as follows: ''The person who provides the shipping paper, and the carrier required to keep it, under this section shall retain the paper, or an electronic format of it, for a period of 3 years after the date the shipping paper is provided to the carrier, with the paper and format to be accessible through their respective principal places of business.''.

SEC. 4430. RAIL TANK CARS.

(a) REPEAL OF REQUIREMENTS.—Section 5111 is repealed.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 51 is amended by striking the item relating to section 5111.

SEC. 4431. HIGHWAY ROUTING OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL.

The second sentence of section 5112(a)(1) is amended by striking ''However, the Secretary of Transportation'' and inserting ''The Secretary''.

SEC. 4432. UNSATISFACTORY SAFETY RATINGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The text of section 5113 is amended to read as follows:

''A violation of section 31144(c)(3) of this title shall be considered a violation of this chapter, and shall be subject to the penalties in sections 5123 and 5124 of this title.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The first subsection (c) of section 31144 is amended—

(1) by striking ''sections 521(b)(5)(A) and 5113'' in paragraph (1) and inserting ''section 521(b)(5)(A) of this title''; and

(2) by adding at the end of paragraph (3) ''A violation of this paragraph by an owner or operator transporting hazardous material shall be considered a violation of chapter 51 of this title, and shall be subject to the penalties in sections 5123 and 5124 of this title.''.

SEC. 4433. AIR TRANSPORTATION OF IONIZING RADIATION MATERIAL.

Section 5114(b) is amended by striking ''of Transportation''.

SEC. 4434. TRAINING CURRICULUM FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5115(a) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In coordination with the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretaries of Labor, Energy, and Health and Human Services, and the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, and using existing coordinating mechanisms of the National Response Team and, for radioactive material, the Federal Radiological Preparedness Coordinating Committee, the Secretary shall maintain a current curriculum of lists of courses necessary to train public sector emergency response and preparedness teams in matters relating to the transportation of hazardous material.''.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—Section 5115(b) is amended—

(1) by striking ''developed'' in the matter preceding paragraph (1) and inserting ''maintained''; and

(2) by striking ''under other United States Government grant programs'' in paragraph (1)(C) and all that follows and inserting ''with Federal assistance; and''.

(c) TRAINING ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGAL REQUIREMENTS.—Section 5115(c)(3) is amended by striking ''Association.'' and inserting ''Association or by any other voluntary organization establishing consensus-based standards that the Secretary considers appropriate.''.

(d) DISTRIBUTION AND PUBLICATION.—Section 5115(d) is amended—

(1) by striking ''national response team—'' and inserting ''National Response Team—''; and

(2) by striking ''publish a list'' in paragraph (2) and all that follows and inserting ''publish and distribute the list of courses maintained under this section, and of any programs utilizing such courses.''.

SEC. 4435. PLANNING AND TRAINING GRANTS; EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND.

(a) REFERENCE TO SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—Section 5116 is amended by striking ''of Transportation'' each place it appears in subsections (a), (b), (c), (d), (g), and (i).

(b) GOVERNMENT SHARE OF COSTS.—Section 5116(e) is amended by striking the second sentence.

(c) MONITORING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 5116(f) is amended by striking ''national response team'' and inserting ''National Response Team''.

(d) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.—Section 5116(g) is amended by striking ''Government grant programs'' and inserting ''Federal financial assistance programs''.

(e) EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND.—

(1) NAME OF FUND.—Section 5116(i) is amended by inserting after ''an account'' the following: ''(to be known as the 'Emergency Preparedness Fund')''.

(2) PUBLICATION OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDE.—Section 5116(i) is further amended—

(A) by striking ''collects under section 5108(g)(2)(A) of this title and'';

(B) by striking ''and'' after the semicolon in paragraph (2);

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) to publish and distribute an emergency response guide; and''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5108(g)(2)(C) is amended by striking ''the account the Secretary of the Treasury establishes'' and inserting ''the Emergency Response Fund established''.

(f) REPORTS.—Section 5116(k) is amended—

(1) by striking the first sentence and inserting ''The Secretary shall make available to the public annually information on the allocation and uses of planning grants under subsection (a), training grants under subsection (b), and grants under subsection (j) of this section and under section 5107 of this title.''; and

(2) by striking ''Such report'' in the second sentence and inserting ''The information''.

SEC. 4436. SPECIAL PERMITS AND EXCLUSIONS.

(a) SPECIAL PERMITS AND EXCLUSIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 5117(a)(1) is amended by striking ''the Secretary of Transportation may issue'' and all that follows through ''in a way'' and inserting ''the Secretary may issue, modify, or terminate a special permit authorizing variances from this chapter, or a regulation prescribed under section 5103(b), 5104, 5110, or 5112 of this title, to a person performing a function regulated by the Secretary under section 5103(b)(1) of this title in a way''.

(2) DURATION.—Section 5117(a)(2) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) A special permit under this subsection—

''(A) shall be effective when first issued for not more than 2 years; and

''(B) may be renewed for successive periods of not more than 4 years each.''.

(b) REFERENCES TO SPECIAL PERMITS.—Section 5117 is further amended—

(1) by striking ''an exemption'' each place it appears and inserting ''a special permit''; and

(2) by striking ''the exemption'' each place it appears and inserting ''the special permit''.

(c) CONFORMING AND CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading of section 5117 is amended to read as follows:

''§ 5117. Special permits and exclusions''

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 51 is amended by striking the item relating to section 5117 and inserting the following:

''5117. Special permits and exclusions.''.

(d) REPEAL OF SECTION 5118.—

(1) Section 5118 is repealed.

(2) The chapter analysis for chapter 51 is amended by striking the item relating to section 5118 and inserting the following:

''5118. Repealed.''.

SEC. 4437. UNIFORM FORMS AND PROCEDURES.

The text of section 5119 is amended to read as follows:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may prescribe regulations to establish uniform forms and regulations for States on the following:

''(1) To register and issue permits to persons that transport or cause to be transported hazardous material by motor vehicles in a State.

''(2) To permit the transportation of hazardous material in a State.

''(b) UNIFORMITY IN FORMS AND PROCEDURES.—In prescribing regulations under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall develop procedures to eliminate discrepancies among the States in carrying out the activities covered by the regulations.

''(c) LIMITATION.—The regulations prescribed under subsection (a) of this section may not define or limit the amount of any fees imposed or collected by a State for any activities covered by the regulations.

''(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the regulations prescribed under subsection (a) of this section shall take effect 1 year after the date on which prescribed.

''(2) EXTENSION.—The Secretary may extend the 1-year period in subsection (a) for an additional year for good cause.

''(e) STATE REGULATIONS.—After the regulations prescribed under subsection (a) of this section take effect under subsection (d) of this section, a State may establish, maintain, or enforce a requirement relating to the same subject matter only if the requirement is consistent with applicable requirements with respect to such activity in the regulations.

''(f) INTERIM STATE PROGRAMS.—Pending the prescription of regulations under subsection (a) of this section, States may participate in the program of uniform forms and procedures recommended by the Alliance for Uniform Hazmat Transportation Procedures.''.

SEC. 4438. INTERNATIONAL UNIFORMITY OF STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS.

Section 5120 is amended by striking ''of Transportation'' each place it appears in subsections (a), (b), and (c)(1).

SEC. 4439. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND SECURITY.

The text of section 5121 is amended to read as follows:

''(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—

''(1) To carry out this chapter, the Secretary may investigate, conduct tests, make reports, issue subpoenas, conduct hearings, require the production of records and property, take depositions, and conduct research, development, demonstration, and training activities.

''(2) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, the Secretary shall provide notice and an opportunity for a hearing before issuing an order directing compliance with this chapter, a regulation prescribed under this chapter, or an order, special permit, or approval issued under this chapter.

''(b) RECORDS, REPORTS, PROPERTY, AND INFORMATION.—A person subject to this chapter shall—

''(1) maintain records, make reports, and provide property and information that the Secretary by regulation or order requires; and

''(2) make the records, reports, property, and information available for inspection when the Secretary undertakes an inspection or investigation.

''(c) INSPECTIONS AND INVESTIGATIONS.—

''(1) A designated officer or employee of the Secretary may—

''(A) inspect and investigate, at a reasonable time and in a reasonable way, records and property relating to a function described in section 5103(b)(1) of this title;

''(B) except for packaging immediately adjacent to the hazardous material contents, gain access to, open, and examine a package offered for or in transportation when the officer or employees has an objectively reasonable and articulable belief that the package may contain hazardous material;

''(C) remove from transportation a package or related packages in a shipment offered for or in transportation for which—

''(i) such officer or employee has an objectively reasonable and articulable belief that the package may pose an imminent hazard; and

''(ii) such officer or employee contemporaneously documents such belief in accordance with procedures set forth in regulations prescribed under subsection (e) of this section;

''(D) gather information from the offeror, carrier, packaging manufacturer or retester, or other person responsible for a package or packages to ascertain the nature and hazards of the contents of the package or packages;

''(E) as necessary under terms and conditions prescribed by the Secretary, order the offeror, carrier, or other person responsible for a package or packages to have the package or packages transported to an appropriate facility, opened, examined, and analyzed; and

''(F) when safety might otherwise be compromised, authorize properly qualified personnel to assist in activities carried out under this paragraph.

''(2) An officer or employee acting under the authority of the Secretary under this subsection shall display proper credentials when requested.

''(3) In instances when, as a result of an inspection or investigation under this subsection, an imminent hazards is not found to exist, the Secretary shall, in accordance with procedures set forth in regulations prescribed under subsection (e) of this section, assist the safe resumption of transportation of the package, packages, or transport unit concerned.

''(d) EMERGENCY ORDERS.—

''(1) If, upon inspection, investigation, testing, or research, the Secretary determines that a violation of a provision of this chapter, or a regulation prescribed under this chapter, or an unsafe condition or practice, constitutes or is causing an imminent hazard, the Secretary may issue or impose emergency restrictions, prohibitions, recalls, or out-of-service orders, without notice or an opportunity for a hearing, but only to the extent necessary to abate the imminent hazard.

''(2) The action of the Secretary under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be in a written emergency order that—

''(A) describes the violation, condition, or practice that constitutes or is causing the imminent hazard;

''(B) states the restrictions, prohibitions, recalls, or out-of-service orders issued or imposed; and

''(C) describe the standards and procedures for obtaining relief from the order.

''(3) After taking action under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Secretary shall provide for review of the action under section 554 of title 5 if a petition for review is filed within 20 calendar days of the issuance of the order for the action.

''(4) If a petition for review of an action is filed under paragraph (3) of this subsection and the review under that paragraph is not completed by the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date the petition is filed, the action shall cease to be effective at the end of such period unless the Secretary determines, in writing, that the imminent hazard providing a basis for the action continues to exist.

''(5) In this subsection, the term 'out-of-service order' means a requirement that an aircraft, vessel, motor vehicle, train, railcar, locomotive, other vehicle, transport unit, transport vehicle, freight container, potable tank, or other package not be moved until specified conditions have been met.

''(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe in accordance with section 553 of title 5 regulations to carry out the authority in subsections (c) and (d) of this section.

''(f) FACILITY, STAFF, AND REPORTING SYSTEM ON RISKS, EMERGENCIES, AND ACTIONS.—

''(1) The Secretary shall—

''(A) maintain a facility and technical staff sufficient to provide, within the United States Government, the capability of evaluating a risk relating to the transportation of hazardous material and material alleged to be hazardous;

''(B) maintain a central reporting system and information center capable of providing information and advice to law enforcement and firefighting personnel, and other interested individuals, and officers and employees of the United States Government and State and local governments on meeting an emergency relating to the transportation of hazardous material; and

''(C) conduct a continuous review on all aspects of transporting hazardous material to decide on and take appropriate actions to ensure safe transportation of hazardous material.

''(2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection shall not prevent the Secretary from making a contract with a private entity for use of a supplemental reporting system and information center operated and maintained by the contractor.

''(g) GRANTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, AND OTHER TRANSACTIONS.—The Secretary may enter into grants, cooperative agreements, and other transactions with a person, agency, or instrumentality of the United States, a unit of State or local government, an Indian tribe, a foreign government (in coordination with the Department of State), an educational institution, or other appropriate entity—

''(1) to expand risk assessment and emergency response capabilities with respect to the security of transportation of hazardous material;

''(2) to conduct research, development, demonstration, risk assessment and emergency response planning and training activities; or

''(3) to otherwise carry out this chapter.

''(h) REPORTS.—

''(1) The Secretary shall, once every 2 years, submit to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure a comprehensive report on the transportation of hazardous material during the preceding 2 calendar years. Each report shall include, for the period covered by such report—

''(A) a statistical compilation of the accidents, incidents, and casualties related to the transportation of hazardous material during such period;

''(B) a list and summary of applicable Government regulations, criteria, orders, and special permits;

''(C) a summary of the basis for each special permit issued;

''(D) an evaluation of the effectiveness of enforcement activities relating to the transportation of hazardous material during such period, and of the degree of voluntary compliance with regulations;

''(E) a summary of outstanding problems in carrying out this chapter, set forth in order of priority; and

''(F) any recommendations for legislative or administrative action that the Secretary considers appropriate.

''(2) Before December 31, 2005, and every 3 years thereafter, the Secretary, through the Bureau of Transportation Statistics and in consultation with other Federal departments and agencies, shall submit a report to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on the transportation of hazardous material in all modes of transportation during the preceding 3 calendar years. Each report shall include, for the period covered by such report—

''(A) a summary of the hazardous material shipments, deliveries, and movements during such period, set forth by hazardous materials type, by tonnage and ton-miles, and by mode, both domestically and across United States borders; and

''(B) a summary of shipment estimates during such period as a proxy for risk.

''(i) SECURITY SENSITIVE INFORMATION.—

''(1) If the Secretary determines that particular information may reveal a vulnerability of a hazardous material to attack during transportation in commerce, or may facilitate the diversion of hazardous material during transportation in commerce for use in an attack on people or property, the Secretary may disclose such information only—

''(A) to the owner, custodian, offeror, or carrier of such hazardous material;

''(B) to an officer, employee, or agent of the United States Government, or a State or local government, including volunteer fire departments, concerned with carrying out transportation safety laws, protecting hazardous material in the course of transportation in commerce, protecting public safety or national security, or enforcing Federal law designed to protect public health or the environment; or

''(C) in an administrative or judicial proceeding brought under this chapter, under other Federal law intended to protect public health or the environment, or under other Federal law intended to address terrorist actions or threats of terrorist actions.

''(2) The Secretary may make determinations under paragraph (1) of this subsection with respect categories of information in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary.

''(3) A release of information pursuant to a determination under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall not be treated as a release of such information to the public for purposes of section 552 of title 5.''.

SEC. 4440. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) REFERENCE TO SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—Section 5122(a) is amended by striking ''of Transportation''.

(b) GENERAL.—Section 5122(a) is further amended—

(1) by striking ''chapter or a regulation prescribed or order''in the first sentence and inserting ''chapter, a regulation prescribed under this chapter, or an order, special permit, or approval''; and

(2) by striking the second sentence and inserting ''In an action under this subsection, the court may award appropriate relief, including a temporary or permanent injunction, civil penalties under section 5123 of this title, and punitive damages.''.

(c) IMMINENT HAZARDS.—Section 5122(b)(1)(B) is amended by striking ''ameliorate'' and inserting ''mitigate''.

SEC. 4441. CIVIL PENALTIES.

(a) REFERENCE TO SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—Section 5123(b) is amended by striking ''of Transportation''.

(b) PENALTY.—Section 5123(a)(1) is amended—

(1) by striking ''chapter or a regulation prescribed or order'' and inserting ''chapter, a regulation prescribed under this chapter, or an order, special permit, or approval''; and

(2) by striking ''$25,000'' and inserting ''$100,000''.

(c) HEARING REQUIREMENT.—Section 5123(b) is amended by striking ''chapter or a regulation prescribed'' and inserting ''chapter, a regulation prescribed under this chapter, or an order, special permit, or approval issued''.

(d) CIVIL ACTIONS TO COLLECT.—Section 5123(d) is amended by striking ''section.'' and inserting ''section and any accrued interest on the civil penalty as calculated in accordance with section 1005 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2705). In the civil action, the amount and appropriateness of the civil penalty shall not be subject to review.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—(1) The amendments made by subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall apply with respect to violations described in section 5123(a) of title 49, United States Code (as amended by this section), that occur on or after that date.

(2) The amendment made by subsection (d) of this section shall apply with respect to civil penalties imposed on violations described in section 5123(a) of title 49, United States Code (as amended by this section), which violations occur on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4442. CRIMINAL PENALTIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5124 is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(a) IN GENERAL.—'' before ''A person''; and

(2) by striking ''chapter or a regulation prescribed or order'' and inserting ''chapter, a regulation prescribed under this chapter, or an order, special permit, or approval''.

(b) ADDITIONAL MATTERS.—That section is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''(b) AGGRAVATED VIOLATIONS.—A person knowingly violating section 5104(b) of this title or willfully violating this chapter or a regulation prescribed, or an order, special permit, or approval issued, under this chapter, who thereby causes the release of hazardous material shall be fined under title 18, imprisoned for not more than 20 years, or both.

''(c) SEPARATE VIOLATIONS.—A separate violation occurs for each day the violation, committed by a person who transports or causes to be transported hazardous material, continues.''.

SEC. 4443. PREEMPTION.

(a) REFERENCE TO SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—Section 5125(b)(2) is amended by striking ''of Transportation''.

(b) PURPOSES.—Section 5125 is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g) as subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), and (h), respectively;

(2) by inserting before subsection (b), as so redesignated, the following:

''(a) PURPOSES.—The Secretary shall exercise the authority in this section—

''(1) to achieve uniform regulation of the transportation of hazardous material;

''(2) to eliminate rules that are inconsistent with the regulations prescribed under this chapter; and

''(3) to otherwise promote the safe and efficient movement of hazardous material in commerce.'';

(3) by striking subsection (g), as redesignated; and

(4) by redesignating subsection (h), as redesignated, as subsection (g).

(c) GENERAL PREEMPTION.—Section 5125(b), as redesignated by subsection (b)(1) of this section, is further amended by striking ''GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), (c), and (e)'' and inserting ''PREEMPTION GENERALLY.—Except as provided in subsections (c), (d), and (f)''.

(d) SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCES.—Section 5125(c), as so redesignated, is further amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1), by striking ''subsection (c)'' and inserting ''subsection (d)'';

(2) by striking subparagraph (E) of paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(E) the manufacturing, designing, inspecting, testing, reconditioning, or repairing of a packaging or packaging component that is represented as qualified for use in transporting hazardous material in commerce.''; and

(3) by striking ''prescribes after November 16, 1990. However, the'' in paragraph (2) and inserting ''prescribes. The''.

(e) DECISIONS ON PREEMPTION.—Section 5125(e), as so redesignated, is further amended by striking ''subsection (a), (b)(1), or (c) of this section.'' in the first sentence and inserting ''subsection (b), (c)(1), or (d) of this section or section 5119(b) of this title.''.

(f) WAIVER OF PREEMPTION.—Section 5125(f), as so redesignated, is further amended by striking ''subsection (a), (b)(1), or (c) of this section.'' and inserting ''subsection (b), (c)(1), or (d) of this section or section 5119(b) of this title.''.

(g) EMERGENCY WAIVER OF PREEMPTION; ADDITIONAL MATTERS.—Section 5125 is further amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (g), as redesignated by subsection (b)(4) of this section, as subsection (j); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (f), as redesignated by subsection (b)(1) of this section, the following:

''(g) EMERGENCY WAIVER OF PREEMPTION.—

''(1) The Secretary may, upon a finding of good cause, waive the preemption of a requirement of a State, political subdivision of a State, or Indian tribe under this section without prior notice or an opportunity for public comment thereon.

''(2) For purposes of paragraph (1) of this subsection, good cause exists when—

''(A) there is a potential threat that hazardous material being transported in commerce may be used in an attack on people or property; and

''(B) notice and an opportunity for public comment thereon are impracticable or contrary to the public interest.

''(3)(A) A waiver of preemption under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be in effect for a period specified by the Secretary, but not more than 6 months.

''(B) If the Secretary determines before the expiration of a waiver of preemption under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph that the potential threat providing the basis for the waiver continues to exist, the Secretary may, after providing notice and an opportunity for public comment thereon, extend the duration of the waiver for such period after the expiration of the waiver under that subparagraph as the Secretary considers appropriate.

''(4) An action of the Secretary under paragraph (1) or (3) of this subsection shall be in writing and shall set forth the standards and procedures for seeking reconsideration of the action.

''(5) After taking action under paragraph (1) or (3) of this subsection, the Secretary shall provide for review of the action if a petition for review of the action is filed within 20 calendar days after the date of the action.

''(6) If a petition for review of an action is filed under paragraph (5) of this subsection and review of the action is not completed by the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date the petition is filed, the waiver under this subsection shall cease to be effective at the end of such period unless the Secretary determines, in writing, that the potential threat providing the basis for the waiver continues.

''(h) APPLICATION OF EACH PREEMPTION STANDARD.—Each standard for preemption in subsection (b), (c)(1), or (d) of this section, and in section 5119(b) of this title, is independent in its application to a requirement of a State, political subdivision of a State, or Indian tribe.

''(i) NON-FEDERAL ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS.—This section does not apply to any procedure, penalty, required mental state, or other standard utilized by a State, political subdivision of a State, or Indian tribe to enforce a requirement applicable to the transportation of hazardous material.''.

SEC. 4444. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.

Section 5126 is amended—

(1) by striking ''or causes to be transported hazardous material,'' in subsection (a) and inserting ''hazardous material, or causes hazardous material to be transported,'';

(2) by striking ''manufactures,'' and all that follows through ''or sells'' in subsection (a) and inserting ''manufactures, designs, inspects, tests, reconditions, marks, or repairs a packaging or packaging component that is represented'';

(3) by striking ''must'' in subsection (a) and inserting ''shall'';

(4) by striking ''manufacturing,'' in subsection (a) and all that follows through ''testing'' and inserting ''manufacturing, designing, inspecting, testing, reconditioning, marking, or repairing''; and

(5) by striking ''39.'' in subsection (b)(2) and inserting ''39, except in the case of an imminent hazard.''.

SEC. 4445. JUDICIAL REVIEW.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 51 is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 5127 as section 5128; and

(2) by inserting after section 5126 the following:

''§ 5127. Judicial review

''(a) FILING AND VENUE.—Except as provided in section 20114(c) of this title, a person suffering legal wrong or adversely affected or aggrieved by a final action of the Secretary under this chapter may petition for review of the final action in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia or in the court of appeals of the United States for the circuit in which the person or resides or has the principal place of business. The petition shall be filed not more than 60 days after the action of the Secretary becomes final.

''(b) PROCEDURES.—When a petition on a final action is filed under subsection (a) of this section, the clerk of the court shall immediately send a copy of the petition to the Secretary. The Secretary shall file with the court a record of any proceeding in which the final action was issued as provided in section 2112 of title 28.

''(c) AUTHORITY OF COURT.—The court in which a petition on a final action is filed under subsection (a) of this section has exclusive jurisdiction, as provided in subchapter II of chapter

5 of title 5 to affirm or set aside any part of the final action and may order the Secretary to conduct further proceedings. Findings of fact by the Secretary, if supported by substantial evidence, are conclusive.

''(d) REQUIREMENT FOR PRIOR OBJECTIONS.—In reviewing a final action under this section, the court may consider an objection to the final action only if—

''(1) the objection was made in the course of a proceeding or review conducted by the Secretary; or

''(2) there was a reasonable ground for not making the objection in the proceeding.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 51 is amended by striking the item relating to section 5127 and inserting the following:

''5127. Judicial review.
''5128. Authorization of appropriations.''.

SEC. 4446. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 5128, as redesignated by section 4445 of this title, is amended to read as follows:

''§ 5128. Authorization of appropriations

''(a) GENERAL.—In order to carry out this chapter (except sections 5107(e), 5108(g), 5112, 5113, 5115, 5116, and 5119 of this title), the following amounts are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary:

''(1) For fiscal year 2004, not more than $24,981,000.

''(2) For fiscal year 2005, not more than $27,000,000.

''(3) For fiscal year 2006, not more than $29,000,000.

''(4) For each of fiscal years 2007 through 2009, not more than $30,000,000.

''(b) EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND.—There shall be available from the Emergency Preparedness Fund under section 5116(i) of this title, amounts as follows:

''(1) To carry out section 5107(e) of this title, $4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

''(2) To carry out section 5115 of this title, $200,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

''(3) To carry out section 5116(a) of this title, $8,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

''(4) To carry out section 5116(b) of this title, $13,800,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

''(5) To carry out section 5116(f) of this title, $150,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

''(6) To carry out section 5116(i)(4) of this title, $150,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

''(7) To carry out section 5116(j) of this title, $1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

''(8) To publish and distribute an emergency response guidebook under section 5116(i)(3) of title 49, United States Code, $500,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009.

''(c) SECTION 5121 REPORTS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation for the use of the Bureau of Transportation Statistics such sums as may be necessary to carry out section 5121(h) of this title.''.

''(d) CREDIT TO APPROPRIATIONS.—The Secretary may credit to any appropriation to carry out this chapter an amount received from a State, political subdivision of a State, Indian tribe, or other public authority or private entity for expenses the Secretary incurs in providing training to the State, political subdivision, Indian tribe, or other authority or entity.

''(e) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts available under subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall remain available until expended.''.

SEC. 4447. ADDITIONAL CIVIL AND CRIMINAL PENALTIES.

(a) TITLE 49 PENALTIES.—Section 46312 is amended—

(1) by striking ''part—'' in subsection (a) and inserting ''part or chapter 51 of this title—''; and

(2) by inserting ''or chapter 51 of this title'' in subsection (b) after ''under this part''.

(b) TITLE 18 PENALTIES.—Section 3663(a)(1)(A) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''5124,'' before ''46312,''.

PART II—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 4461. ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY FOR RESEARCH AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION.

Section 112 is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

''(e) ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES.—

''(1) GRANTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, AND OTHER TRANSACTIONS.—The Administrator may enter into grants, cooperative agreements, and other transactions with Federal agencies, State and local government agencies, other public entities, private organizations, and other persons—

''(A) to conduct research into transportation service and infrastructure assurance; and

''(B) to carry out other research activities of the Administration.

''(2) LIMITATION ON DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.—

''(A) LIMITATION.—If the Administrator determines that particular information developed in research sponsored by the Administration may reveal a systemic vulnerability of transportation service or infrastructure, such information may be disclosed only to—

''(i) a person responsible for the security of the transportation service or infrastructure; or

''(ii) a person responsible for protecting public safety; or

''(iii) an officer, employee, or agent of the Federal Government, or a State or local government, who, as determined by the Administrator, has need for such information in the performance of official duties.

''(B) TREATMENT OF RELEASE.—The release of information under subparagraph (A) shall not be treated as a release to the public for purposes of section 552 of title 5.''.

SEC. 4462. MAILABILITY OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.

(a) NONMAILABILITY GENERALLY.—Section 3001 of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (n) as subsection (o); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (m) the following:

''(n)(1) Except as otherwise authorized by law or regulations of the Postal Service under section 3018 of this title, hazardous material is nonmailable.

''(2) In this subsection, the term 'hazardous material' means a substance or material designated by the Secretary of Transportation as hazardous material under section 5103(a) of title 49.''.

(b) MAILABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 30 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 3018. Hazardous material

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Postal Service shall prescribe regulations for the safe transportation of hazardous material in the mails.

''(b) PROHIBITIONS.—No person may—

''(1) mail or cause to be mailed hazardous material that has been declared by statute or Postal Service regulation to be nonmailable;

''(2) mail or cause to be mailed hazardous material in violation of any statute or Postal Service regulation restricting the time, place, or manner in which hazardous material may be mailed; or

''(3) manufacture, distribute, or sell any container, packaging kit, or similar device that—

''(A) is represented, marked, certified, or sold by such person for use in the mailing of hazardous material; and

''(B) fails to conform with any statute or Postal Service regulation setting forth standards for a container, packaging kit, or similar device used for the mailing of hazardous material.

''(c) CIVIL PENALTY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A person who knowingly violates this section or a regulation prescribed under this section shall be liable to the Postal Service for—

''(A) a civil penalty of at least $250, but not more than $100,000, for each violation;

''(B) the costs of any clean-up associated with such violation; and

''(C) damages.

''(2) KNOWING ACTION.—A person acts knowingly for purposes of paragraph (1) when—

''(A) the person has actual knowledge of the facts giving rise to the violation; or

''(B) a reasonable person acting in the circumstances and exercising reasonable care would have had that knowledge.

''(3) KNOWLEDGE OF STATUTE OR REGULATION NOT ELEMENT OF OFFENSE.—Knowledge of the existence of a statutory provision or Postal Service regulation is not an element of an offense under this subsection.

''(4) SEPARATE VIOLATIONS.—

''(A) VIOLATIONS OVER TIME.—A separate violation under this subsection occurs for each day hazardous material, mailed or cause to be mailed in noncompliance with this section, is in the mail.

''(B) SEPARATE ITEMS.—A separate violation under this subsection occurs for each item containing hazardous material that is mailed or caused to be mailed in noncompliance with this section.

''(d) HEARINGS.—The Postal Service may determine that a person has violated this section or a regulation prescribed under this section only after notice and an opportunity for a hearing.

''(e) PENALTY CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining the amount of a civil penalty for a violation of this section, the Postal Service shall consider—

''(1) the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the violation;

''(2) with respect to the person who committed the violation, the degree of culpability, any history of prior violations, the ability to pay, and any effect on the ability to continue in business;

''(3) the impact on Postal Service operations; and

''(4) any other matters that justice requires.

''(f) CIVIL ACTIONS TO COLLECT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with section 4409(d) of this title, a civil action may be commenced in an appropriate district court of the United States to collect a civil penalty, clean-up costs, and damages assessed under subsection (c).

''(2) LIMITATION.—In a civil action under paragraph (1), the validity, amount, and appropriateness of the civil penalty, clean-up costs, and damages covered by the civil action shall not be subject to review.

''(3) COMPROMISE.—The Postal Service may compromise the amount a civil penalty, clean-up costs, and damages assessed under subsection (c) before commencing a civil action with respect to such civil penalty, clean-up costs, and damages under paragraph (1).

''(g) CIVIL JUDICIAL PENALTIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—At the request of the Postal Service, the Attorney General may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States to enforce this section or a regulation prescribed under this section.

''(2) RELIEF.—The court in a civil action under paragraph (1) may award appropriate relief, including a temporary or permanent injunction, civil penalties as determined in accordance with this section, or punitive damages.

''(3) CONSTRUCTION.—A civil action under this subsection shall be in lieu of civil penalties for the same violation under subsection (c)(1)(A).

''(h) DEPOSIT OF AMOUNTS COLLECTED.—Amounts collected under this section shall be deposited into the Postal Service Fund under section 2003 of this title.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 30 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''3018. Hazardous material.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 2003(b) of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''and'' after the semicolon in paragraph (7);

(2) by striking ''purposes.'' in paragraph (8) and inserting ''purposes; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(9) any amounts collected under section 3018 of this title.''.

SEC. 4463. CRIMINAL MATTERS.

Section 845(a)(1) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking ''which are regulated'' and all that follows and inserting ''that is subject to the authority of the Departments of Transportation and Homeland Security;''.

SEC. 4464. CARGO INSPECTION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation may establish a program of random inspections of cargo at points of entry into the United States for the purpose of determining the extent to which undeclared hazardous material is being offered for transportation in commerce through such points of entry.

(b) INSPECTIONS.—Under the program under subsection (a)—

(1) an officer of the Department of Transportation who is not located at a point of entry into the United States may select at random cargo shipments at points of entry into the United States for inspection; and

(2) an officer or employee of the Department may open and inspect each cargo shipment so selected for the purpose described in subsection (a).

(c) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall coordinate any inspections under the program under subsection (a) with the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(d) DISPOSITION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.—The Secretary of Transportation shall provide for the appropriate handling and disposition of any hazardous material discovered pursuant to inspections under the program under subsection (a).

SEC. 4465. INFORMATION ON HAZMAT REGISTRATIONS.

The Administrator of the Department of Transportation's Research and Special Programs Administration shall—

(1) transmit current hazardous material registrant information to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to cross reference the registrant's Federal motor carrier registration number; and

(2) notify the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration immediately, and provide a registrant's United States Department of Transportation identification number to the Administration, whenever a new registrant registers to transport hazardous materials as a motor carrier.

SEC. 4466. REPORT ON APPLYING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS REGULATIONS TO PERSONS WHO REJECT HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.

Within 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall complete an assessment of the costs and benefits of subjecting persons who reject hazardous material for transportation in commerce to the hazardous materials laws and regulations. In completing this assessment, the Secretary shall—

(1) estimate the number of affected employers and employees;

(2) determine what actions would be required by them to comply with such laws and regulations; and

(3) consider whether and to what extent the application of Federal hazardous materials laws and regulations should be limited to—

(A) particular modes of transportation;

(B) certain categories of employees; or

(C) certain classes or categories of hazardous materials.

PART III—SANITARY FOOD TRANSPORTATION

SEC. 4481. SHORT TITLE.

This part may be cited as the ''Sanitary Food Transportation Act of 2004''.

SEC. 4482. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

(a) UNSANITARY TRANSPORT DEEMED ADULTERATION.—Section 402 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 342) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(i) NONCOMPLIANCE WITH SANITARY TRANSPORTATION PRACTICES.—If the food is transported under conditions that are not in compliance with the sanitary transportation practices prescribed by the Secretary under section 416.''.

(b) SANITARY TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS.—Chapter IV of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 341 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 416. SANITARY TRANSPORTATION PRACTICES.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) BULK VEHICLE.—The term 'bulk vehicle' includes a tank truck, hopper truck, rail tank car, hopper car, cargo tank, portable tank, freight container, or hopper bin, and any other vehicle in which food is shipped in bulk, with the food coming into direct contact with the vehicle.

''(2) TRANSPORTATION.—The term 'transportation' means any movement in commerce by motor vehicle or rail vehicle.

''(b) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall by regulation require shippers, carriers by motor vehicle or rail vehicle, receivers, and other persons engaged in the transportation of food to use sanitary transportation practices prescribed by the Secretary to ensure that food is not transported under conditions that may render the food adulterated.

''(c) CONTENTS.—The regulations shall—

''(1) prescribe such practices as the Secretary determines to be appropriate relating to—

''(A) sanitation;

''(B) packaging, isolation, and other protective measures;

''(C) limitations on the use of vehicles;

''(D) information to be disclosed—

''(i) to a carrier by a person arranging for the transport of food; and

''(ii) to a manufacturer or other person that—

''(I) arranges for the transportation of food by a carrier; or

''(II) furnishes a tank vehicle or bulk vehicle for the transportation of food; and

''(E) recordkeeping; and

''(2) include—

''(A) a list of nonfood products that the Secretary determines may, if shipped in a bulk vehicle, render adulterated food that is subsequently transported in the same vehicle; and

''(B) a list of nonfood products that the Secretary determines may, if shipped in a motor vehicle or rail vehicle (other than a tank vehicle or bulk vehicle), render adulterated food that is simultaneously or subsequently transported in the same vehicle.

''(d) WAIVERS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may waive any requirement under this section, with respect to any class of persons, vehicles, food, or nonfood products, if the Secretary determines that the waiver—

''(A) will not result in the transportation of food under conditions that would be unsafe for human or animal health; and

''(B) will not be contrary to the public interest.

''(2) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register any waiver and the reasons for the waiver.

''(e) PREEMPTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—No State or political subdivision of a State may directly or indirectly establish or continue in effect, as to any food in interstate commerce, any authority or requirement concerning transportation of food that is not identical to an authority or requirement under this section.

''(2) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection applies to transportation that occurs on or after the effective date of the regulations promulgated under subsection (b).

''(f) ASSISTANCE OF OTHER AGENCIES.—The Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the heads of other Federal agencies, as appropriate, shall provide assistance on request, to the extent resources are available, to the Secretary for the purposes of carrying out this section.''.

(c) INSPECTION OF TRANSPORTATION RECORDS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Section 703 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 373) is amended—

(A) by striking the section heading and all that follows through ''For the purpose'' and inserting the following:

''SEC. 703. RECORDS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) FOOD TRANSPORTATION RECORDS.—A shipper, carrier by motor vehicle or rail vehicle, receiver, or other person subject to section 416 shall, on request of an officer or employee designated by the Secretary, permit the officer or employee, at reasonable times, to have access to and to copy all records that the Secretary requires to be kept under section 416(c)(1)(E).''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (a) of section 703 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (as designated by paragraph (1)(A)) is amended by striking ''carriers.'' and inserting ''carriers, except as provided in subsection (b)''.

(d) PROHIBITED ACTS.—

(1) RECORDS INSPECTION.—Section 301(e) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 331(e)) is amended by inserting ''416,'' before ''504,'' each place it appears.

(2) UNSAFE FOOD TRANSPORTATION.—Section 301 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 331) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(hh) NONCOMPLIANCE WITH SANITARY TRANSPORTATION PRACTICES.—The failure by a shipper, carrier by motor vehicle or rail vehicle, receiver, or any other person engaged in the transportation of food to comply with the sanitary transportation practices prescribed by the Secretary under section 416.''.

SEC. 4483. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS.

Chapter 57, is amended to read as follows:

''CHAPTER 57—SANITARY FOOD TRANSPORTATION

''Sec.

''5701. Food transportation safety inspections.

''§ 5701. Food transportation safety inspections

''(a) INSPECTION PROCEDURES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Agriculture, shall—

''(A) establish procedures for transportation safety inspections for the purpose of identifying suspected incidents of contamination or adulteration of—

''(i) food in violation of regulations promulgated under section 416 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act; and

''(ii) meat subject to detention under section 402 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 672); and

''(iii) poultry products subject to detention under section 19 of the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 467a); and

''(B) train personnel of the Department of Transportation in the appropriate use of the procedures.

''(2) APPLICABILITY.—The procedures established under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall apply, at a minimum, to Department of Transportation personnel that perform commercial motor vehicle or railroad safety inspections.

''(b) NOTIFICATION OF SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES OR SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.—The Secretary of Transportation shall promptly notify the Secretary of Health and Human Services or the Secretary of Agriculture, as applicable, of any instances of potential food contamination or adulteration of a food identified during transportation safety inspections.

''(c) USE OF STATE EMPLOYEES.—The means by which the Secretary of Transportation carries out subsection (b) of this section may include inspections conducted by State employees using funds authorized to be appropriated under sections 31102 through 31104 of this title.''.

SEC. 4484. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This part takes effect on October 1, 2003.

Subtitle E—Recreational Boating Safety Programs

SEC. 4501. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Sport Fishing and Recreational Boating Safety Act''.

PART I—FEDERAL AID IN SPORT FISH RESTORATION ACT AMENDMENTS

SEC. 4521. AMENDMENT OF FEDERAL AID IN FISH RESTORATION ACT.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this subtitle an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Act entitled ''An Act to provide that the United States shall aid the States in fish restoration and management projects, and for other purposes,'' approved August 9, 1950 (64 Stat. 430; 16 U.S.C. 777 et seq.).

SEC. 4522. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 (16 U.S.C. 777b) is amended—

(1) by striking ''the succeeding fiscal year.'' in the third sentence and inserting ''succeeding fiscal years.''; and

(2) by striking ''in carrying on the research program of the Fish and Wildlife Service in respect to fish of material value for sport and recreation.'' and inserting ''to supplement the 55.3 percent of each annual appropriation to be apportioned among the States, as provided for in section 4(b) of this title.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 777b) is amended in the first sentence—

(A) by striking ''Sport Fish Restoration Account'' and inserting ''Sport Fish Restoration Trust Fund''; and

(B) by striking ''that Account'' and inserting ''that Trust Fund, except as provided in section 9504(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) take effect on October 1, 2004.

SEC. 4523. DIVISION OF ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 4 (16 U.S.C. 777c) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (a) through (d) and redesignating subsections (e), (f), and (g) as subsections (b), (c), and (d);

(2) by inserting before subsection (b), as redesignated, the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal years 2004 through 2009, each annual appropriation made in accordance with the provisions of section 3 of this title shall be distributed as follows:

''(1) COASTAL WETLANDS.—18 percent to the Secretary of the Interior for distribution as provided in the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 3951 et seq.).

''(2) BOATING SAFETY.—18 percent to the Secretary of Homeland Security for State recreational boating safety programs under section 13106 of title 46, United States Code.

''(3) CLEAN VESSEL ACT.—1.9 percent to the Secretary of the Interior for qualified projects under section 5604(c) of the Clean Vessel Act of 1992 (33 U.S.C. 1322 note).

''(4) BOATING INFRASTRUCTURE.—1.9 percent to the Secretary of the Interior for obligation for qualified projects under section 7404(d) of the Sportfishing and Boating Safety Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 777g–1(d)).

''(5) NATIONAL OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS.—1.9 percent to the Secretary of the Interior for the National Outreach and Communications Program under section 8(d) of this title. Such amounts shall remain available for 3 fiscal years, after which any portion thereof that is unobligated by the Secretary for that program may be expended by the Secretary under subsection (b) of this section.

''(6) SET-ASIDE FOR EXPENSES FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THIS CHAPTER.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—2.1 percent to the Secretary of the Interior for expenses for administration incurred in implementation of this title, in accordance with this section, section 9, and section 14 of this title.

''(B) APPORTIONMENT OF UNOBLIGATED FUNDS.—If any portion of the amount made available to the Secretary under subparagraph (A) remains unexpended and unobligated at the end of a fiscal year, that portion shall be apportioned among the States, on the same basis and in the same manner as other amounts made available under this title are apportioned among the States under subsection (b) of this section, within 60 days after the end of that fiscal year. Any amount apportioned among the States under this subparagraph shall be in addition to any amounts otherwise available for apportionment among the States under subsection (b) for the fiscal year.'';

(3) by striking ''of the Interior, after the distribution, transfer, use, and deduction under subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d), respectively, and after deducting amounts used for grants under section 14, shall apportion the remainder'' in subsection (b), as redesignated, and inserting ''shall apportion 55.3 percent'';

(4) by striking ''per centum'' each place it appears in subsection (b), as redesignated, and inserting ''percent'';

(5) by striking ''subsections (a), (b)(3)(A), (b)(3)(B), and (c)'' in paragraph (1) of subsection (d), as redesignated, and inserting ''paragraphs (1), (3), (4), and (5) of subsection (a)''; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

''(e) TRANSFER OF CERTAIN FUNDS.—Amounts available under paragraphs (3) and (4) of subsection (a) that are unobligated by the Secretary after 3 fiscal years shall be transferred to the Secretary of Homeland Security and shall be expended for State recreational boating safety programs under section 13106(a) of title 46, United States Code.''.

SEC. 4524. MAINTENANCE OF PROJECTS.

Section 8 (16 U.S.C. 777g) is amended—

(1) by striking ''in carrying out the research program of the Fish and Wildlife Service in respect to fish of material value for sport or recreation.'' in subsection (b)(2) and inserting ''to supplement the 55.3 percent of each annual appropriation to be apportioned among the States under section 4(b) of this title.''; and

(2) by striking ''subsection (c) or (d) of section 4'' in subsection (d)(3) and inserting ''paragraph (5) or (6) of section 4(a)''.

SEC. 4525. BOATING INFRASTRUCTURE.

Section 7404(d)(1) of the Sportfishing and Boating Safety Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 777g-1(d)(1)) is amended by striking ''section 4(b)(3)(B)'' and inserting ''section 4(a)(4)''.

SEC. 4526. REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS CONCERNING USE OF AMOUNTS FOR EXPENSES FOR ADMINISTRATION.

Section 9 (16 U.S.C. 777h) is amended—

(1) by striking ''section 4(d)(1)'' in subsection (a) and inserting ''section 4(a)(6)''; and

(2) by striking ''section 4(d)(1)'' in subsection (b)(1) and inserting ''section 4(a)(6)''.

SEC. 4527. PAYMENTS OF FUNDS TO AND COOPERATION WITH PUERTO RICO, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, GUAM, AMERICAN SAMOA, THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS.

Section 12 (16 U.S.C. 777k) is amended by striking ''in carrying on the research program of the Fish and Wildlife Service in respect to fish of material value for sport or recreation.'' and inserting ''to supplement the 55.3 percent of each annual appropriation to be apportioned among the States under section 4(b) of this title.''.

SEC. 4528. MULTISTATE CONSERVATION GRANT PROGRAM.

Section 14 (16 U.S.C. 777m) is amended—

(1) by striking so much of subsection (a) as precedes paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) AMOUNT FOR GRANTS.—For each of fiscal years 2004 through 2009, 0.9 percent of each annual appropriation made in accordance with the provisions of section 3 of this title shall be distributed to the Secretary of the Interior for making multistate conservation project grants in accordance with this section.'';

(2) by striking ''section 4(e)'' each place it appears in subsection (a)(2)(B) and inserting ''section 4(b)''; and

(3) by striking ''Of the balance of each annual appropriation made under section 3 remaining after the distribution and use under subsections (a), (b), and (c) of section 4 for each fiscal year and after deducting amounts used for grants under subsection (a)—'' in subsection (e) and inserting ''Of amounts made available under section 4(a)(6) for each fiscal year—''.

PART II—CLEAN VESSEL ACT AMENDMENTS

SEC. 4541. GRANT PROGRAM.

Section 5604(c)(2) of the Clean Vessel Act of 1992 (33 U.S.C. 1322 note) is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (A); and

(2) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively.

PART III—RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

SEC. 4561. STATE MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENT.

Section 13103(b) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking ''one-half'' and inserting ''75 percent''.

SEC. 4562. AVAILABILITY OF ALLOCATIONS.

Section 13104(a) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''2 years'' in paragraph (1) and inserting ''3 years''; and

(2) by striking ''2-year'' in paragraph (2) and inserting ''3-year''.

SEC. 4563. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR STATE RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY PROGRAMS.

Section 13106(c) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''Secretary of Transportation under paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 4(b)'' and inserting ''Secretary under subsections (a)(2) and (e) of section 4''; and

(2) by inserting ''a minimum of'' before ''$2,083,333''.

SEC. 4564. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT FOR STATE RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 131 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 13106 the following:

''§ 13107. Maintenance of effort for State recreational boating safety programs

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The amount payable to a State for a fiscal year from an allocation under

section 13103 of this chapter shall be reduced if the usual amounts expended by the State for the State's recreational boating safety program, as determined under section 13105 of this chapter, for the previous fiscal year is less than the average of the total of such expenditures for the 3 fiscal years immediately preceding that previous fiscal year. The reduction shall be proportionate, as a percentage, to the amount by which the level of State expenditures for such previous fiscal year is less than the average of the total of such expenditures for the 3 fiscal years immediately preceding that previous fiscal year.

''(b) REDUCTION OF THRESHHOLD.—If the total amount available for allocation and distribution under this chapter in a fiscal year for all participating State recreational boating safety programs is less than such amount for the preceding fiscal year, the level of State expenditures required under subsection (a) of this section for the preceding fiscal year shall be decreased proportionately.

''(c) WAIVER.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon the written request of a State, the Secretary may waive the provisions of subsection (a) of this section for 1 fiscal year if the Secretary determines that a reduction in expenditures for the State's recreational boating safety program is attributable to a non- selective reduction in expenditures for the programs of all Executive branch agencies of the State government, or for other reasons if the State demonstrates to the Secretary's satisfaction that such waiver is warranted.

''(2) 30-DAY DECISION.—The Secretary shall approve or deny a request for a waiver not later than 30 days after the date the request is received.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 131 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 13106 the following:

''13107. Maintenance of effort for State recreational boating safety programs.''.

PART IV—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 4581. TECHNICAL CORRECTION TO HOMELAND SECURITY ACT.

Section 1511(e)(2) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-296) is amended by striking ''and to any funds provided to the Coast Guard from the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund of the Highway Trust Fund for boating safety programs.'' and inserting ''and any funds provided to the Coast Guard from the Highway Trust Fund and transferred into the Sport Fish Restoration Account of the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund for boating safety programs.''.

Subtitle F—Rail Transportation

PART I—AMTRAK

SEC. 4601. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

The text of section 24104 of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation $2,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009 for the benefit of Amtrak for operating expenses.''.

SEC. 4602. ESTABLISHMENT OF BUILD AMERICA CORPORATION.

There is established a nonprofit corporation, to be known as the ''Build America Corporation''. The Build America Corporation is not an agency or establishment of the United States Government. The purpose of the Corporation is to support qualified projects described in section 4603(c)(2) through the issuance of Build America bonds. The Corporation shall be subject, to the extent consistent with this section, to the laws of the State of Delaware applicable to corporations not for profit.

SEC. 4603. FEDERAL BONDS FOR TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE.

(a) USE OF BOND PROCEEDS.—The proceeds from the sale of—

(1) any bonds authorized, issued, or guaranteed by the Federal Government that are available to fund passenger rail projects pursuant to any Federal law (enacted before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act), and

(2) any Build America bonds issued by the Build America Corporation as authorized by section 4602,

may be used to fund a qualified project if the Secretary of Transportation determines that the qualified project is a cost-effective alternative for efficiently maximizing mobility of individuals and goods.

(b) COMPLIANCE OF BENEFICIARIES WITH CERTAIN STANDARDS.—A recipient of proceeds of a grant, loan, Federal tax-credit bonds, or any other form of financial assistance provided under this title shall comply with the standards described in section 24312 of title 49, United States Code, as in effect on June 25, 2003, with respect to any qualified project described in subsection (c)(1) in the same manner that the National Passenger Railroad Corporation is required to comply with such standards for construction work financed under an agreement entered into under section 24308(a) of such title.

(c) QUALIFIED PROJECT DEFINED.—In this section—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the term ''qualified project'' means any transportation infrastructure project of any governmental unit or other person that is proposed by a State, including a highway project, a transit system project, a railroad project, an airport project, a port project, and an inland waterways project.

(2) BUILD AMERICA CORPORATION PROJECTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to any Build America bonds issued by the Build America Corporation as authorized by section 4602, the term ''qualified project'' means any—

(i) qualified highway project,

(ii) qualified public transportation project, and

(iii) congestion relief project,

proposed by 1 or more States and approved by the Build America Corporation, which meets the requirements under clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (D).

(B) QUALIFIED HIGHWAY PROJECT.—The term ''qualified highway project'' means a project for highway facilities or other facilities which are eligible for assistance under title 23, United States Code.

(C) QUALIFIED PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROJECT.—The term ''qualified public transportation project'' means a project for public transportation facilities or other facilities which are eligible for assistance under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code.

(D) CONGESTION RELIEF PROJECT.—The term ''congestion relief project'' means an intermodal freight transfer facility, freight rail facility, freight movement corridor, intercity passenger rail or facility, intercity bus vehicle or facility, border crossing facility, or other public or private facility approved as a congestion relief project by the Secretary of Transportation. In making such approvals, the Secretary of Transportation shall—

(i) consider the economic, environmental, mobility, and national security improvements to be realized through the project, and

(ii) give preference to projects with national or regional significance, including any projects sponsored by a coalition of States or a combination of States and private sector entities, in terms of generating economic benefits, supporting international commerce, or otherwise enhancing the national transportation system.

(D) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR QUALIFIED PROJECTS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)—

(i) COSTS OF QUALIFIED PROJECTS.—The requirement of this clause is met if the costs of the qualified project funded by Build America bonds only relate to capital investments in depreciable assets and do not include any costs relating to operations, maintenance, or rolling stock.

(ii) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL LAW.—The requirement of this clause is met if the requirements of any Federal law, including titles 23, 40, and 49 of the United States Code, which would otherwise apply to projects to which the United States is a party or to funds made available under such law and projects assisted with those funds are applied to—

(I) funds made available under Build America bonds for similar qualified projects, and

(II) similar qualified projects assisted by the Build America Corporation through the use of such funds.

(iii) UTILIZATION OF UPDATED CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY FOR QUALIFIED PROJECTS.—The requirement of this clause is met if the appropriate State agency relating to the qualified project has updated its accepted construction technologies to match a list prescribed by the Secretary of Transportation and in effect on the date of the approval of the project as a qualified project.

PART II—RAILROAD TRACK MODERNIZATION

SEC. 4631. SHORT TITLE.

This part may be cited as the ''Railroad Track Modernization Act of 2004''.

SEC. 4632. CAPITAL GRANTS FOR RAILROAD TRACK.

(a) AUTHORITY.—Chapter 223 of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''CHAPTER 223—CAPITAL GRANTS FOR RAILROAD TRACK

''Sec.

''22301. Capital grants for railroad track.

''§ 22301. Capital grants for railroad track

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Transportation shall establish a program of capital grants for the rehabilitation, preservation, or improvement of railroad track (including roadbed, bridges, and related track structures) of class II and class III railroads. Such grants shall be for rehabilitating, preserving, or improving track used primarily for freight transportation to a standard ensuring that the track can be operated safely and efficiently, including grants for rehabilitating, preserving, or improving track to handle 286,000 pound rail cars. Grants may be provided under this chapter—

''(A) directly to the class II or class III railroad; or

''(B) with the concurrence of the class II or class III railroad, to a State or local government.

''(2) STATE COOPERATION.—Class II and class III railroad applicants for a grant under this chapter are encouraged to utilize the expertise and assistance of State transportation agencies in applying for and administering such grants. State transportation agencies are encouraged to provide such expertise and assistance to such railroads.

''(3) REGULATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall prescribe regulations to carry out the program under this section.

''(B) CRITERIA.—In developing the regulations, the Secretary shall establish criteria that—

''(i) condition the award of a grant to a railroad on reasonable assurances by the railroad that the facilities to be rehabilitated and improved will be economically and efficiently utilized;

''(ii) ensure that the award of a grant is justified by present and probable future demand for rail services by the railroad to which the grant is to be awarded;

''(iii) ensure that consideration is given to projects that are part of a State-sponsored rail plan; and

''(iv) ensure that all such grants are awarded on a competitive basis.

''(b) MAXIMUM FEDERAL SHARE.—The maximum Federal share for carrying out a project

under this section shall be 80 percent of the project cost. The non-Federal share may be provided by any non-Federal source in cash, equipment, or supplies. Other in-kind contributions may be approved by the Secretary on a case by case basis consistent with this chapter.

''(c) PROJECT ELIGIBILITY.—For a project to be eligible for assistance under this section the track must have been operated or owned by a class II or class III railroad as of the date of the enactment of the Railroad Track Modernization Act of 2004.

''(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants provided under this section shall be used to implement track capital projects as soon as possible. In no event shall grant funds be contractually obligated for a project later than the end of the third Federal fiscal year following the year in which the grant was awarded. Any funds not so obligated by the end of such fiscal year shall be returned to the Secretary for reallocation.

''(e) ADDITIONAL PURPOSE.—In addition to making grants for projects as provided in subsection (a), the Secretary may also make grants to supplement direct loans or loan guarantees made under title V of the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 (45 U.S.C. 822(d)), for projects described in the last sentence of section 502(d) of such title. Grants made under this subsection may be used, in whole or in part, for paying credit risk premiums, lowering rates of interest, or providing for a holiday on principal payments.

''(f) EMPLOYEE PROTECTION.—The Secretary shall require as a condition of any grant made under this section that the recipient railroad provide a fair arrangement at least as protective of the interests of employees who are affected by the project to be funded with the grant as the terms imposed under section 11326(a), as in effect on the date of the enactment of the Railroad Track Modernization Act of 2001.

''(g) LABOR STANDARDS.—

''(1) PREVAILING WAGES.—The Secretary shall ensure that laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors in construction work financed by a grant made under this section will be paid wages not less than those prevailing on similar construction in the locality, as determined by the Secretary of Labor under the Act of March 3, 1931 (known as the Davis-Bacon Act; 40 U.S.C. 276a et seq.). The Secretary shall make a grant under this section only after being assured that required labor standards will be maintained on the construction work.

''(2) WAGE RATES.—Wage rates in a collective bargaining agreement negotiated under the Railway Labor Act (45 U.S.C. 151 et seq.) are deemed for purposes of this subsection to comply with the Act of March 3, 1931 (known as the Davis-Bacon Act; 40 U.S.C. 276a et seq.).''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating to chapter 223 in the table of chapters of subtitle V of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''223. CAPITAL GRANTS FOR RAILROAD TRACK ..... 22301''.

SEC. 4633. REGULATIONS.

(a) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Transporation shall prescribe under subsection (a)(3) of section 22301 of title 49, United States Code (as added by section 4601), interim and final regulations for the administration of the grant program under such section as follows:

(1) INTERIM REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe the interim regulations to implement the program not later than December 31, 2003.

(2) FINAL REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe the final regulations not later than October 1, 2004.

(b) INAPPLICABILITY OF RULEMAKING PROCEDURE TO INTERIM REGULATIONS.—Subchapter II of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, shall not apply to the issuance of an interim regulation or to any amendment of such an interim regulation.

(c) CRITERIA.—The requirement for the establishment of criteria under subparagraph (B) of section 22301(a)(3) of title 49, United States Code, applies to the interim regulations as well as to the final regulations.

SEC. 4634. STUDY OF GRANT-FUNDED PROJECTS.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR STUDY.—The Secretary of Transportation shall conduct a study of the projects carried out with grant assistance under section 22301 of title 49, United States Code (as added by section 4601), to determine the public interest benefits associated with the light density railroad networks in the States and their contribution to a multimodal transportation system.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than March 31, 2004, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the results of the study under subsection (a). The report shall include any recommendations that the Secretary considers appropriate regarding the eligibility of light density rail networks for Federal infrastructure financing.

SEC. 4635. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Transportation $350,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004, 2005, and 2006 for carrying out section 22301 of title 49, United States Code (as added by section 4601).

PART III—OTHER RAIL TRANSPORTATION-RELATED PROVISIONS

SEC. 4661. CAPITAL GRANTS FOR RAIL LINE RELOCATION PROJECTS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—

(1) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—Chapter 201 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end of subchapter II the following:

''§ 20154. Capital grants for rail line relocation projects

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Transportation shall carry out a grant program to provide financial assistance for local rail line relocation projects.

''(b) ELIGIBILITY.—A State is eligible for a grant under this section for any project for the improvement of the route or structure of a rail line passing through a municipality of the State that—

''(1) is carried out for the purpose of mitigating the adverse effects of rail traffic on safety, motor vehicle traffic flow, or economic development in the municipality;

''(2) involves a lateral or vertical relocation of any portion of the rail line within the municipality to avoid a closing of a grade crossing or the construction of a road underpass or overpass; and

''(3) meets the costs-benefits requirement set forth in subsection (c).

''(c) COSTS-BENEFITS REQUIREMENT.—A grant may be awarded under this section for a project for the relocation of a rail line only if the benefits of the project for the period equal to the estimated economic life of the relocated rail line exceed the costs of the project for that period, as determined by the Secretary considering the following factors:

''(1) The effects of the rail line and the rail traffic on motor vehicle and pedestrian traffic, safety, and area commerce if the rail line were not so relocated.

''(2) The effects of the rail line, relocated as proposed, on motor vehicle and pedestrian traffic, safety, and area commerce.

''(3) The effects of the rail line, relocated as proposed, on the freight and passenger rail operations on the rail line.

''(d) CONSIDERATIONS FOR APPROVAL OF GRANT APPLICATIONS.—In addition to considering the relationship of benefits to costs in determining whether to award a grant to an eligible State under this section, the Secretary shall consider the following factors:

''(1) The capability of the State to fund the rail line relocation project without Federal grant funding.

''(2) The requirement and limitation relating to allocation of grant funds provided in subsection (e).

''(3) Equitable treatment of the various regions of the United States.

''(e) ALLOCATION REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) GRANTS NOT GREATER THAN $20,000,000.—At least 50 percent of all grant funds awarded under this section out of funds appropriated for a fiscal year shall be provided as grant awards of not more than $20,000,000 each.

''(2) LIMITATION PER PROJECT.—Not more than 25 percent of the total amount available for carrying out this section for a fiscal year may be provided for any 1 project in that fiscal year.

''(f) FEDERAL SHARE.—The total amount of a grant awarded under this section for a rail line relocation project shall be 90 percent of the shared costs of the project, as determined under subsection (g)(4).

''(g) STATE SHARE.—

''(1) PERCENTAGE.—A State shall pay 10 percent of the shared costs of a project that is funded in part by a grant awarded under this section.

''(2) FORMS OF CONTRIBUTIONS.—The share required by paragraph (1) may be paid in cash or in kind.

''(3) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—The in-kind contributions that are permitted to be counted under paragraph (2) for a project for a State are as follows:

''(A) A contribution of real property or tangible personal property (whether provided by the State or a person for the State).

''(B) A contribution of the services of employees of the State, calculated on the basis of costs incurred by the State for the pay and benefits of the employees, but excluding overhead and general administrative costs.

''(C) A payment of any costs that were incurred for the project before the filing of an application for a grant for the project under this section, and any in-kind contributions that were made for the project before the filing of the application, if and to the extent that the costs were incurred or in-kind contributions were made, as the case may be, to comply with a provision of a statute required to be satisfied in order to carry out the project.

''(4) COSTS NOT SHARED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of subsection (f) and this subsection, the shared costs of a project in a municipality do not include any cost that is defrayed with any funds or in-kind contribution that a source other than the municipality makes available for the use of the municipality without imposing at least 1 of the following conditions:

''(i) The condition that the municipality use the funds or contribution only for the project.

''(ii) The condition that the availability of the funds or contribution to the municipality is contingent on the execution of the project.

''(B) DETERMINATIONS OF THE SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall determine the amount of the costs, if any, that are not shared costs under this paragraph and the total amount of the shared costs. A determination of the Secretary shall be final.

''(h) MULTISTATE AGREEMENTS TO COMBINE AMOUNTS.—Two or more States (not including political subdivisions of States) may, pursuant to an agreement entered into by the States, combine any part of the amounts provided through grants for a project under this section if—

''(1) the project will benefit each of the States entering into the agreement; and

''(2) the agreement is not a violation of a law of any such State.

''(i) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe regulations for carrying out this section.

''(j) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'State' includes, except as otherwise specifically provided, a political subdivision of a State.

''(k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for use in carrying out this section $350,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2008.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

''20154. Capital grants for rail line relocation projects.''.

(b) REGULATIONS.—

(1) INTERIM REGULATIONS.—Not later than October 1, 2003, the Secretary of Transportation shall issue temporary regulations to implement the grant program under section 20154 of title 49, United States Code, as added by subsection (a). Subchapter II of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, shall not apply to the issuance of a temporary regulation under this subsection or of any amendment of such a temporary regulation.

(2) FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than April 1, 2004, the Secretary shall issue final regulations implementing the program.

SEC. 4662. USE OF CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT FUNDS FOR BOSTON TO PORTLAND PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds authorized to be appropriated under section 1101(5) that are made available to the State of Maine may be used to support, through December 15, 2006, the operation of passenger rail service between Boston, Massachusetts, and Portland, Maine.

TITLE V—HIGHWAY REAUTHORIZATION AND EXCISE TAX SIMPLIFICATION

SEC. 5000. SHORT TITLE; AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the ''Highway Reauthorization and Excise Tax Simplification Act of 2004''.

(b) AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Subtitle A—Trust Fund Reauthorization

SEC. 5001. EXTENSION OF HIGHWAY TRUST FUND AND AQUATIC RESOURCES TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY AND RELATED TAXES.

(a) HIGHWAY TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY.—

(1) HIGHWAY ACCOUNT.—Paragraph (1) of section 9503(c) (relating to transfers from Highway Trust Fund for certain repayments and credits) is amended—

(A) in the matter before subparagraph (A), by striking ''March 1, 2004'' and inserting ''October 1, 2009'',

(B) by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (E),

(C) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (F) and inserting '', or'',

(D) by inserting after subparagraph (F), the following new subparagraph:

''(G) authorized to be paid out of the Highway Trust Fund under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004.'', and

(E) in the matter after subparagraph (G), as added by subparagraph (D), by striking ''Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2003'' and inserting ''Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004''.

(2) MASS TRANSIT ACCOUNT.—Paragraph (3) of section 9503(e) (relating to establishment of Mass Transit Account) is amended—

(A) in the matter before subparagraph (A), by striking ''March 1, 2004'' and inserting ''October 1, 2009'',

(B) by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (C),

(C) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting '', or'',

(D) by inserting after subparagraph (D), the following new subparagraph:

''(E) the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004,'', and

(E) in the matter after subparagraph (E), as added by subparagraph (D), by striking ''Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2003'' and inserting ''Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004''.

(3) EXCEPTION TO LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS.—Subparagraph (B) of section 9503(b)(5) (relating to limitation on transfers to Highway Trust Fund) is amended by striking ''March 1, 2004'' and inserting ''October 1, 2009''.

(b) AQUATIC RESOURCES TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY.—

(1) SPORT FISH RESTORATION ACCOUNT.—Paragraph (2) of section 9504(b) (relating to Sport Fish Restoration Account) is amended by striking ''Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2003'' each place it appears and inserting ''Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004''.

(2) BOAT SAFETY ACCOUNT.—Section 9504(c) (relating to expenditures from Boat Safety Account) is amended—

(A) by striking ''March 1, 2004'' and inserting ''October 1, 2009'', and

(B) by striking ''Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2003'' and inserting ''Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004''.

(3) EXCEPTION TO LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS.—Paragraph (2) of section 9504(d) (relating to limitation on transfers to Aquatic Resources Trust Fund) is amended by striking ''March 1, 2004'' and inserting ''October 1, 2009''.

(4) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—The last sentence of paragraph (2) of section 9504(b) is amended by striking ''subparagraph (B)'', and inserting ''subparagraph (C)''.

(c) EXTENSION OF TAXES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The following provisions are each amended by striking ''2005'' each place it appears and inserting ''2009'':

(A) Section 4041(a)(1)(C)(iii)(I) (relating to rate of tax on certain buses).

(B) Section 4041(a)(2)(B) (relating to rate of tax on special motor fuels).

(C) Section 4041(m)(1)(A) (relating to certain alcohol fuels produced from natural gas).

(D) Section 4051(c) (relating to termination of tax on heavy trucks and trailers).

(E) Section 4071(d) (relating to termination of tax on tires).

(F) Section 4081(d)(1) (relating to termination of tax on gasoline, diesel fuel, and kerosene).

(G) Section 4481(e) (relating to period tax in effect).

(H) Section 4482(c)(4) (relating to taxable period).

(I) Section 4482(d) (relating to special rule for taxable period in which termination date occurs).

(2) FLOOR STOCKS REFUNDS.—Section 6412(a)(1) (relating to floor stocks refunds) is amended—

(A) by striking ''2005'' each place it appears and inserting ''2009'', and

(B) by striking ''2006'' each place it appears and inserting ''2010''.

(d) EXTENSION OF CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS.—The following provisions are each amended by striking ''2005'' and inserting ''2009'':

(1) Section 4221(a) (relating to certain tax-free sales).

(2) Section 4483(g) (relating to termination of exemptions for highway use tax).

(e) EXTENSION OF DEPOSITS INTO, AND CERTAIN TRANSFERS FROM, TRUST FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsections (b), (c)(2), (c)(3), (c)(4)(A)(i), and (c)(5)(A) of section 9503 (relating to the Highway Trust Fund) are amended—

(A) by striking ''2005'' each place it appears and inserting ''2009'', and

(B) by striking ''2006'' each place it appears and inserting ''2010''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND.—Section 201(b) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 460l–11(b)) is amended—

(A) by striking ''2003'' and inserting ''2007'', and

(B) by striking ''2004'' each place it appears and inserting ''2008''.

(f) EXTENSION OF TAX BENEFITS FOR QUALIFIED METHANOL AND ETHANOL FUEL PRODUCED FROM COAL.—Section 4041(b)(2) (relating to qualified methanol and ethanol fuel) is amended—

(1) by striking ''2007'' in subparagraph (C)(ii) and inserting ''2010'', and

(2) by striking ''October 1, 2007'' in subparagraph (D) and inserting ''January 1, 2011''.

(g) PROHIBITION ON USE OF HIGHWAY ACCOUNT FOR RAIL PROJECTS.—Section 9503(c) (relating to transfers from Highway Trust Fund for certain repayments and credits) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) PROHIBITION ON USE OF HIGHWAY ACCOUNT FOR CERTAIN RAIL PROJECTS.—With respect to rail projects beginning after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, no amount shall be available from the Highway Account (as defined in subsection (e)(5)(B)) for any rail project, except for any rail project involving publicly owned rail facilities or any rail project yielding a public benefit.''.

(h) HIGHWAY TRUST FUND EXPENDITURES FOR HIGHWAY USE TAX EVASION PROJECTS.—Section 9503(c), as amended by subsection (g), is amended to add at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) HIGHWAY USE TAX EVASION PROJECTS.—From amounts available in the Highway Trust Fund, there is authorized to be expended—

''(A) for each fiscal year after 2003 to the Internal Revenue Service—

''(i) $30,000,000 for enforcement of fuel tax compliance, including the per-certification of tax-exempt users,

''(ii) $10,000,000 for Xstars, and

''(iii) $10,000,000 for xfirs, and

''(B) for each fiscal year after 2003 to the Federal Highway Administration, $50,000,000 to be allocated $1,000,000 to each State to combat fuel tax evasion on the State level.''.

(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by and provisions of this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5002. FULL ACCOUNTING OF FUNDS RECEIVED BY THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9503(c) (relating to transfers from Highway Trust Fund for certain repayments and credits), as amended by section 5001 of this Act, is amended by striking paragraph (2) and redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), (5), (6), and (7) as paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5), and (6), respectively.

(b) INTEREST ON UNEXPENDED BALANCES CREDITED TO TRUST FUND.—Section 9503 (relating to the Highway Trust Fund) is amended by striking subsection (f).

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 9503(b)(4)(D) is amended by striking ''paragraph (4)(D) or (5)(B)'' and inserting ''paragraph (3)(D) or (4)(B)''.

(2) Paragraph (2) of section 9503(c) (as redesignated by subsection (a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''The amounts payable from the Highway Trust Fund under this paragraph shall be determined by taking into account only the portion of the taxes which are deposited into the Highway Trust Fund.''.

(3) Section 9504(a)(2) is amended by striking ''section 9503(c)(4), section 9503(c)(5)'' and inserting ''section 9503(c)(3), section 9503(c)(4)''.

(4) Paragraph (2) of section 9504(b), as amended by section 5001 of this Act, is amended by striking ''section 9503(c)(5)'' and inserting ''section 9503(c)(4)''.

(5) Section 9504(e) is amended by striking ''section 9503(c)(4)'' and inserting ''section 9503(c)(3)''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid for which no transfer from the Highway Trust Fund has been made before April 1, 2004.

(2) INTEREST CREDITED.—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5003. MODIFICATION OF ADJUSTMENTS OF APPORTIONMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9503(d) (relating to adjustments for apportionments) is amended—

(1) by striking ''24-month'' in paragraph (1)(B) and inserting ''48-month'', and

(2) by striking ''2 YEARS''' in the heading for paragraph (3) and inserting ''4 YEARS'''.

(b) MEASUREMENT OF NET HIGHWAY RECEIPTS.—Section 9503(d) is amended by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7) and by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

''(6) MEASUREMENT OF NET HIGHWAY RECEIPTS.—For purposes of making any estimate under paragraph (1) of net highway receipts for periods ending after the date specified in subsection (b)(1), the Secretary shall treat—

''(A) each expiring provision of subsection (b) which is related to appropriations or transfers to the Highway Trust Fund to have been extended through the end of the 48-month period referred to in paragraph (1)(B), and

''(B) with respect to each tax imposed under the sections referred to in subsection (b)(1), the rate of such tax during the 48-month period referred to in paragraph (1)(B) to be the same as the rate of such tax as in effect on the date of such estimate.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle B—Volumetric Ethanol Excise Tax Credit

SEC. 5101. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Volumetric Ethanol Excise Tax Credit (VEETC) Act of 2004''.

SEC. 5102. ALCOHOL AND BIODIESEL EXCISE TAX CREDIT AND EXTENSION OF ALCOHOL FUELS INCOME TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter B of chapter 65 (relating to rules of special application) is amended by inserting after section 6425 the following new section:

''SEC. 6426. CREDIT FOR ALCOHOL FUEL AND BIODIESEL MIXTURES.

''(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDITS.—There shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by section 4081 an amount equal to the sum of—

''(1) the alcohol fuel mixture credit, plus

''(2) the biodiesel mixture credit.

''(b) ALCOHOL FUEL MIXTURE CREDIT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, the alcohol fuel mixture credit is the product of the applicable amount and the number of gallons of alcohol used by the taxpayer in producing any alcohol fuel mixture for sale or use in a trade or business of the taxpayer.

''(2) APPLICABLE AMOUNT.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the applicable amount is 52 cents (51 cents in the case of any sale or use after 2004).

''(B) MIXTURES NOT CONTAINING ETHANOL.—In the case of an alcohol fuel mixture in which none of the alcohol consists of ethanol, the applicable amount is 60 cents.

''(3) ALCOHOL FUEL MIXTURE.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'alcohol fuel mixture' means a mixture of alcohol and a taxable fuel which—

''(A) is sold by the taxpayer producing such mixture to any person for use as a fuel,

''(B) is used as a fuel by the taxpayer producing such mixture, or

''(C) is removed from the refinery by a person producing such mixture.

''(4) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) ALCOHOL.—The term 'alcohol' includes methanol and ethanol but does not include—

''(i) alcohol produced from petroleum, natural gas, or coal (including peat), or

''(ii) alcohol with a proof of less than 190 (determined without regard to any added denaturants).

Such term also includes an alcohol gallon equivalent of ethyl tertiary butyl ether or other ethers produced from such alcohol.

''(B) TAXABLE FUEL.—The term 'taxable fuel' has the meaning given such term by section 4083(a)(1).

''(5) TERMINATION.—This subsection shall not apply to any sale, use, or removal for any period after December 31, 2010.

''(c) BIODIESEL MIXTURE CREDIT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, the biodiesel mixture credit is the product of the applicable amount and the number of gallons of biodiesel used by the taxpayer in producing any biodiesel mixture for sale or use in a trade or business of the taxpayer.

''(2) APPLICABLE AMOUNT.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the applicable amount is 50 cents.

''(B) AMOUNT FOR AGRI-BIODIESEL.—In the case of any biodiesel which is agri-biodiesel, the applicable amount is $1.00.

''(3) BIODIESEL MIXTURE.—For purposes of this section, the term 'biodiesel mixture' means a mixture of biodiesel and diesel fuel (as defined in section 4083(a)(3)), determined without regard to any use of kerosene, which—

''(A) is sold by the taxpayer producing such mixture to any person for use as a fuel,

''(B) is used as a fuel by the taxpayer producing such mixture, or

''(C) is removed from the refinery by a person producing such mixture.

''(4) CERTIFICATION FOR BIODIESEL.—No credit shall be allowed under this section unless the taxpayer obtains a certification (in such form and manner as prescribed by the Secretary) from the producer of the biodiesel which identifies the product produced and the percentage of biodiesel and agri-biodiesel in the product.

''(5) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—Any term used in this subsection which is also used in section 40A shall have the meaning given such term by section 40A.

''(6) TERMINATION.—This subsection shall not apply to any sale, use, or removal for any period after December 31, 2006.

''(d) MIXTURE NOT USED AS A FUEL, ETC.—

''(1) IMPOSITION OF TAX.—If—

''(A) any credit was determined under this section with respect to alcohol or biodiesel used in the production of any alcohol fuel mixture or biodiesel mixture, respectively, and

''(B) any person—

''(i) separates the alcohol or biodiesel from the mixture, or

''(ii) without separation, uses the mixture other than as a fuel,

then there is hereby imposed on such person a tax equal to the product of the applicable amount and the number of gallons of such alcohol or biodiesel.

''(2) APPLICABLE LAWS.—All provisions of law, including penalties, shall, insofar as applicable and not inconsistent with this section, apply in respect of any tax imposed under paragraph (1) as if such tax were imposed by section 4081 and not by this section.

''(e) COORDINATION WITH EXEMPTION FROM EXCISE TAX.—Rules similar to the rules under section 40(c) shall apply for purposes of this section.''.

(b) REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT.—Section 4101(a)(1) (relating to registration), as amended by sections 5211 and 5242 of this Act, is amended by inserting ''and every person producing or importing biodiesel (as defined in section 40A(d)(1)) or alcohol (as defined in section 6426(b)(4)(A))'' after ''4081''.

(c) ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 40(c) is amended by striking ''subsection (b)(2), (k), or (m) of section 4041, section 4081(c), or section 4091(c)'' and inserting ''section 4041(b)(2), section 6426, or section 6427(e)''.

(2) Paragraph (4) of section 40(d) is amended to read as follows:

''(4) VOLUME OF ALCOHOL.—For purposes of determining under subsection (a) the number of gallons of alcohol with respect to which a credit is allowable under subsection (a), the volume of alcohol shall include the volume of any denaturant (including gasoline) which is added under any formulas approved by the Secretary to the extent that such denaturants do not exceed 5 percent of the volume of such alcohol (including denaturants).''.

(3) Section 40(e)(1) is amended—

(A) by striking ''2007'' in subparagraph (A) and inserting ''2010'', and

(B) by striking ''2008'' in subparagraph (B) and inserting ''2011''.

(4) Section 40(h) is amended—

(A) by striking ''2007'' in paragraph (1) and inserting ''2010'', and

(B) by striking '', 2006, or 2007'' in the table contained in paragraph (2) and inserting ''through 2010''.

(5) Section 4041(b)(2)(B) is amended by striking ''a substance other than petroleum or natural gas'' and inserting ''coal (including peat)''.

(6) Section 4041 is amended by striking subsection (k).

(7) Section 4081 is amended by striking subsection (c).

(8) Paragraph (2) of section 4083(a) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) GASOLINE.—The term 'gasoline'—

''(A) includes any gasoline blend, other than qualified methanol or ethanol fuel (as defined in section 4041(b)(2)(B)), partially exempt methanol or ethanol fuel (as defined in section 4041(m)(2)), or a denatured alcohol, and

''(B) includes, to the extent prescribed in regulations—

''(i) any gasoline blend stock, and

''(ii) any product commonly used as an additive in gasoline (other than alcohol).

For purposes of subparagraph (B)(i), the term 'gasoline blend stock' means any petroleum product component of gasoline.''.

(9) Section 6427 is amended by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection:

''(e) ALCOHOL OR BIODIESEL USED TO PRODUCE ALCOHOL FUEL AND BIODIESEL MIXTURES OR USED AS FUELS.—Except as provided in subsection (k)—

''(1) USED TO PRODUCE A MIXTURE.—If any person produces a mixture described in section 6426 in such person's trade or business, the Secretary shall pay (without interest) to such person an amount equal to the alcohol fuel mixture credit or the biodiesel mixture credit with respect to such mixture.

''(2) USED AS FUEL.—If alcohol (as defined in section 40(d)(1)) or biodiesel (as defined in section 40A(d)(1)) or agri-biodiesel (as defined in section 40A(d)(2)) which is not in a mixture described in section 6426—

''(A) is used by any person as a fuel in a trade or business, or

''(B) is sold by any person at retail to another person and placed in the fuel tank of such person's vehicle,

the Secretary shall pay (without interest) to such person an amount equal to the alcohol credit (as determined under section 40(b)(2)) or the biodiesel credit (as determined under section 40A(b)(2)) with respect to such fuel.

''(3) COORDINATION WITH OTHER REPAYMENT PROVISIONS.—No amount shall be payable under paragraph (1) with respect to any mixture with respect to which an amount is allowed as a credit under section 6426.

''(4) TERMINATION.—This subsection shall not apply with respect to—

''(A) any alcohol fuel mixture (as defined in section 6426(b)(3)) or alcohol (as so defined) sold or used after December 31, 2010, and

''(B) any biodiesel mixture (as defined in section 6426(c)(3)) or biodiesel (as so defined) or agri-biodiesel (as so defined) sold or used after December 31, 2006.''.

(10) Section 6427(i)(3) is amended—

(A) by striking ''subsection (f)'' both places it appears in subparagraph (A) and inserting ''subsection (e)(1)'',

(B) by striking ''gasoline, diesel fuel, or kerosene used to produce a qualified alcohol mixture (as defined in section 4081(c)(3))'' in subparagraph (A) and inserting ''a mixture described in section 6426'',

(C) by adding at the end of subparagraph (A) the following new flush sentence:

''In the case of an electronic claim, this subparagraph shall be applied without regard to clause (i).'',

(D) by striking ''subsection (f)(1)'' in subparagraph (B) and inserting ''subsection (e)(1)'',

(E) by striking ''20 days of the date of the filing of such claim'' in subparagraph (B) and inserting ''45 days of the date of the filing of such claim (20 days in the case of an electronic claim)'', and

(F) by striking ''ALCOHOL MIXTURE'' in the heading and inserting ''ALCOHOL FUEL AND BIODIESEL MIXTURE''.

(11) Section 9503(b)(1) is amended by adding at the end the following new flush sentence:

''For purposes of this paragraph, taxes received under sections 4041 and 4081 shall be determined without reduction for credits under section 6426.''.

(12) Section 9503(b)(4), as amended by section 5101 of this Act, is amended—

(A) by adding ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (C),

(B) by striking the comma at the end of subparagraph (D)(iii) and inserting a period, and

(C) by striking subparagraphs (E) and (F).

(13) The table of sections for subchapter B of chapter 65 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 6425 the following new item:

''Sec. 6426. Credit for alcohol fuel and biodiesel mixtures.''.

(14) TARIFF SCHEDULE.—Headings 9901.00.50 and 9901.00.52 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (19 U.S.C. 3007) are each amended in the effective period column by striking ''10/1/2007'' each place it appears and inserting ''1/1/2011''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel sold or used after September 30, 2004.

(2) REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT.—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall take effect on April 1, 2005.

(3) EXTENSION OF ALCOHOL FUELS CREDIT.—The amendments made by paragraphs (3), (4), and (14) of subsection (c) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(4) REPEAL OF GENERAL FUND RETENTION OF CERTAIN ALCOHOL FUELS TAXES.—The amendments made by subsection (c)(12) shall apply to fuel sold or used after September 30, 2003.

(e) FORMAT FOR FILING.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall describe the electronic format for filing claims described in section 6427(i)(3)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as amended by subsection (c)(10)(C)) not later than September 30, 2004.

SEC. 5103. BIODIESEL INCOME TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 (relating to business related credits) is amended by inserting after section 40 the following new section:

''SEC. 40A. BIODIESEL USED AS FUEL.

''(a) GENERAL RULE.—For purposes of section 38, the biodiesel fuels credit determined under this section for the taxable year is an amount equal to the sum of—

''(1) the biodiesel mixture credit, plus

''(2) the biodiesel credit.

''(b) DEFINITION OF BIODIESEL MIXTURE CREDIT AND BIODIESEL CREDIT.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) BIODIESEL MIXTURE CREDIT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The biodiesel mixture credit of any taxpayer for any taxable year is 50 cents for each gallon of biodiesel used by the taxpayer in the production of a qualified biodiesel mixture.

''(B) QUALIFIED BIODIESEL MIXTURE.—The term 'qualified biodiesel mixture' means a mixture of biodiesel and diesel fuel (as defined in section 4083(a)(3)), determined without regard to any use of kerosene, which—

''(i) is sold by the taxpayer producing such mixture to any person for use as a fuel, or

''(ii) is used as a fuel by the taxpayer producing such mixture.

''(C) SALE OR USE MUST BE IN TRADE OR BUSINESS, ETC.—Biodiesel used in the production of a qualified biodiesel mixture shall be taken into account—

''(i) only if the sale or use described in subparagraph (B) is in a trade or business of the taxpayer, and

''(ii) for the taxable year in which such sale or use occurs.

''(D) CASUAL OFF-FARM PRODUCTION NOT ELIGIBLE.—No credit shall be allowed under this section with respect to any casual off-farm production of a qualified biodiesel mixture.

''(2) BIODIESEL CREDIT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The biodiesel credit of any taxpayer for any taxable year is 50 cents for each gallon of biodiesel which is not in a mixture with diesel fuel and which during the taxable year—

''(i) is used by the taxpayer as a fuel in a trade or business, or

''(ii) is sold by the taxpayer at retail to a person and placed in the fuel tank of such person's vehicle.

''(B) USER CREDIT NOT TO APPLY TO BIODIESEL SOLD AT RETAIL.—No credit shall be allowed under subparagraph (A)(i) with respect to any biodiesel which was sold in a retail sale described in subparagraph (A)(ii).

''(3) CREDIT FOR AGRI-BIODIESEL.—In the case of any biodiesel which is agri-biodiesel, paragraphs (1)(A) and (2)(A) shall be applied by substituting '$1.00' for '50 cents'.

''(4) CERTIFICATION FOR BIODIESEL.—No credit shall be allowed under this section unless the taxpayer obtains a certification (in such form and manner as prescribed by the Secretary) from the producer or importer of the biodiesel which identifies the product produced and the percentage of biodiesel and agri-biodiesel in the product.

''(c) COORDINATION WITH CREDIT AGAINST EXCISE TAX.—The amount of the credit determined under this section with respect to any biodiesel shall be properly reduced to take into account any benefit provided with respect to such biodiesel solely by reason of the application of section 6426 or 6427(e).

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

''(1) BIODIESEL.—The term 'biodiesel' means the monoalkyl esters of long chain fatty acids derived from plant or animal matter which meet—

''(A) the registration requirements for fuels and fuel additives established by the Environmental Protection Agency under section 211 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545), and

''(B) the requirements of the American Society of Testing and Materials D6751.

''(2) AGRI-BIODIESEL.—The term 'agri-biodiesel' means biodiesel derived solely from virgin oils, including esters derived from virgin vegetable oils from corn, soybeans, sunflower seeds, cottonseeds, canola, crambe, rapeseeds, safflowers, flaxseeds, rice bran, and mustard seeds, and from animal fats.

''(3) MIXTURE OR BIODIESEL NOT USED AS A FUEL, ETC.—

''(A) MIXTURES.—If—

''(i) any credit was determined under this section with respect to biodiesel used in the production of any qualified biodiesel mixture, and

''(ii) any person—

''(I) separates the biodiesel from the mixture, or

''(II) without separation, uses the mixture other than as a fuel,

then there is hereby imposed on such person a tax equal to the product of the rate applicable under subsection (b)(1)(A) and the number of gallons of such biodiesel in such mixture.

''(B) BIODIESEL.—If—

''(i) any credit was determined under this section with respect to the retail sale of any biodiesel, and

''(ii) any person mixes such biodiesel or uses such biodiesel other than as a fuel,

then there is hereby imposed on such person a tax equal to the product of the rate applicable under subsection (b)(2)(A) and the number of gallons of such biodiesel.

''(C) APPLICABLE LAWS.—All provisions of law, including penalties, shall, insofar as applicable and not inconsistent with this section, apply in respect of any tax imposed under subparagraph (A) or (B) as if such tax were imposed by section 4081 and not by this chapter.

''(4) PASS-THRU IN THE CASE OF ESTATES AND TRUSTS.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, rules similar to the rules of subsection (d) of section 52 shall apply.

''(e) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply to any sale or use after December 31, 2006.''.

(b) CREDIT TREATED AS PART OF GENERAL BUSINESS CREDIT.—Section 38(b) (relating to current year business credit) is amended by striking ''plus'' at the end of paragraph (14), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (15) and inserting '', plus'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(16) the biodiesel fuels credit determined under section 40A(a).''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 39(d) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(11) NO CARRYBACK OF BIODIESEL FUELS CREDIT BEFORE EFFECTIVE DATE.—No portion of the unused business credit for any taxable year which is attributable to the biodiesel fuels credit determined under section 40A may be carried back to a taxable year ending on or before September 30, 2004.''.

(2)(A) Section 87 is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 87. ALCOHOL AND BIODIESEL FUELS CREDITS.

''Gross income includes—

''(1) the amount of the alcohol fuels credit determined with respect to the taxpayer for the taxable year under section 40(a), and

''(2) the biodiesel fuels credit determined with respect to the taxpayer for the taxable year under section 40A(a).''.

(B) The item relating to section 87 in the table of sections for part II of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by striking ''fuel credit'' and inserting ''and biodiesel fuels credits''.

(3) Section 196(c) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (9), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (10) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(11) the biodiesel fuels credit determined under section 40A(a).''.

(4) The table of sections for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by adding after the item relating to section 40 the following new item:

''Sec. 40A. Biodiesel used as fuel.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel produced, and sold or used, after September 30, 2004, in taxable years ending after such date.

Subtitle C—Fuel Fraud Prevention

SEC. 5200. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Fuel Fraud Prevention Act of 2004''.

PART I—AVIATION JET FUEL

SEC. 5211. TAXATION OF AVIATION-GRADE KEROSENE.

(a) RATE OF TAX.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 4081(a)(2) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (ii), by striking the period at the end of clause (iii) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iv) in the case of aviation-grade kerosene, 21.8 cents per gallon.''.

(2) COMMERCIAL AVIATION.—Paragraph (2) of section 4081(a) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) TAXES IMPOSED ON FUEL USED IN COMMERCIAL AVIATION.—In the case of aviation-grade kerosene which is removed from any refinery or terminal directly into the fuel tank of an aircraft for use in commercial aviation, the rate of tax under subparagraph (A)(iv) shall be 4.3 cents per gallon.''.

(3) NONTAXABLE USES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 4082 is amended by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as subsections (f) and (g), respectively, and by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection:

''(e) AVIATION-GRADE KEROSENE.—In the case of aviation-grade kerosene which is exempt from the tax imposed by section 4041(c) (other than by reason of a prior imposition of tax) and which is removed from any refinery or terminal directly into the fuel tank of an aircraft, the rate of tax under section 4081(a)(2)(A)(iv) shall be zero.''.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(i) Subsection (b) of section 4082 is amended by adding at the end the following new flush sentence: ''The term 'nontaxable use' does not include the use of aviation-grade kerosene in an aircraft.''.

(ii) Section 4082(d) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively.

(4) NONAIRCRAFT USE OF AVIATION-GRADE KEROSENE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 4041(a)(1) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''This subparagraph shall not apply to aviation-grade kerosene.''.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading for paragraph (1) of section 4041(a) is amended by inserting ''AND KEROSENE'' after ''DIESEL FUEL''.

(b) COMMERCIAL AVIATION.—Section 4083 is amended redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively, and by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

''(b) COMMERCIAL AVIATION.—For purposes of this subpart, the term 'commercial aviation' means any use of an aircraft in a business of transporting persons or property for compensation or hire by air, unless properly allocable to any transportation exempt from the taxes imposed by section 4261 and 4271 by reason of section 4281 or 4282 or by reason of section 4261(h).''.

(c) REFUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (4) of section 6427(l) is amended to read as follows:

''(4) REFUNDS FOR AVIATION-GRADE KEROSENE.—

''(A) NO REFUND OF CERTAIN TAXES ON FUEL USED IN COMMERCIAL AVIATION.—In the case of aviation-grade kerosene used in commercial aviation (as defined in section 4083(b)) (other than supplies for vessels or aircraft within the meaning of section 4221(d)(3)), paragraph (1) shall not apply to so much of the tax imposed by section 4081 as is attributable to—

''(i) the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund financing rate imposed by such section, and

''(ii) so much of the rate of tax specified in section 4081(a)(2)(A)(iv) as does not exceed 4.3 cents per gallon.

''(B) PAYMENT TO ULTIMATE, REGISTERED VENDOR.—With respect to aviation-grade kerosene, if the ultimate purchaser of such kerosene waives (at such time and in such form and manner as the Secretary shall prescribe) the right to payment under paragraph (1) and assigns such right to the ultimate vendor, then the Secretary shall pay the amount which would be paid under paragraph (1) to such ultimate vendor, but only if such ultimate vendor—

''(i) is registered under section 4101, and

''(ii) meets the requirements of subparagraph (A), (B), or (D) of section 6416(a)(1).''.

(2) TIME FOR FILING CLAIMS.—Paragraph (4) of section 6427(i) is amended by striking ''subsection (l)(5)'' and inserting ''paragraph (4)(B) or (5) of subsection (l)''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (B) of section 6427(l)(2) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) in the case of aviation-grade kerosene—

''(i) any use which is exempt from the tax imposed by section 4041(c) other than by reason of a prior imposition of tax, or

''(ii) any use in commercial aviation (within the meaning of section 4083(b)).''.

(d) REPEAL OF PRIOR TAXATION OF AVIATION FUEL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter A of chapter 32 is amended by striking subpart B and by redesignating subpart C as subpart B.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 4041(c) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) AVIATION-GRADE KEROSENE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby imposed a tax upon aviation-grade kerosene—

''(A) sold by any person to an owner, lessee, or other operator of an aircraft for use in such aircraft, or

''(B) used by any person in an aircraft unless there was a taxable sale of such fuel under subparagraph (A).

''(2) EXEMPTION FOR PREVIOUSLY TAXED FUEL.—No tax shall be imposed by this subsection on the sale or use of any aviation-grade kerosene if tax was imposed on such liquid under section 4081 and the tax thereon was not credited or refunded.

''(3) RATE OF TAX.—The rate of tax imposed by this subsection shall be the rate of tax specified in section 4081(a)(2)(A)(iv) which is in effect at the time of such sale or use.''.

(B) Section 4041(d)(2) is amended by striking ''section 4091'' and inserting ''section 4081''.

(C) Section 4041 is amended by striking subsection (e).

(D) Section 4041 is amended by striking subsection (i).

(E) Section 4041(m)(1) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of the sale or use of any partially exempt methanol or ethanol fuel, the rate of the tax imposed by subsection (a)(2) shall be—

''(A) after September 30, 1997, and before September 30, 2009—

''(i) in the case of fuel none of the alcohol in which consists of ethanol, 9.15 cents per gallon, and

''(ii) in any other case, 11.3 cents per gallon, and

''(B) after September 30, 2009—

''(i) in the case of fuel none of the alcohol in which consists of ethanol, 2.15 cents per gallon, and

''(ii) in any other case, 4.3 cents per gallon.''.

(F) Sections 4101(a), 4103, 4221(a), and 6206 are each amended by striking '', 4081, or 4091'' and inserting ''or 4081''.

(G) Section 6416(b)(2) is amended by striking ''4091 or''.

(H) Section 6416(b)(3) is amended by striking ''or 4091'' each place it appears.

(I) Section 6416(d) is amended by striking ''or to the tax imposed by section 4091 in the case of refunds described in section 4091(d)''.

(J) Section 6427 is amended by striking subsection (f).

(K) Section 6427(j)(1) is amended by striking '', 4081, and 4091'' and inserting ''and 4081''.

(L)(i) Section 6427(l)(1) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and in subsection (k), if any diesel fuel or kerosene on which tax has been imposed by section 4041 or 4081 is used by any person in a nontaxable use, the Secretary shall pay (without interest) to the ultimate purchaser of such fuel an amount equal to the aggregate amount of tax imposed on such fuel under section 4041 or 4081, as the case may be, reduced by any refund paid to the ultimate vendor under paragraph (4)(B).''.

(ii) Paragraph (5)(B) of section 6427(l) is amended by striking ''Paragraph (1)(A) shall not apply to kerosene'' and inserting ''Paragraph (1) shall not apply to kerosene (other than aviation-grade kerosene)''.

(M) Subparagraph (B) of section 6724(d)(1) is amended by striking clause (xv) and by redesignating the succeeding clauses accordingly.

(N) Paragraph (2) of section 6724(d) is amended by striking subparagraph (W) and by redesignating the succeeding subparagraphs accordingly.

(O) Paragraph (1) of section 9502(b) is amended by adding ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (B) and by striking subparagraphs (C) and (D) and inserting the following new subparagraph:

''(C) section 4081 with respect to aviation gasoline and aviation-grade kerosene, and''.

(P) The last sentence of section 9502(b) is amended to read as follows:

''There shall not be taken into account under paragraph (1) so much of the taxes imposed by section 4081 as are determined at the rate specified in section 4081(a)(2)(B).''.

(Q) Subsection (b) of section 9508 is amended by striking paragraph (3) and by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively.

(R) Section 9508(c)(2)(A) is amended by striking ''sections 4081 and 4091'' and inserting ''section 4081''.

(S) The table of subparts for part III of subchapter A of chapter 32 is amended to read as follows:

''Subpart A. Motor and aviation fuels.
''Subpart B. Special provisions applicable to fuels tax.''.

(T) The heading for subpart A of part III of subchapter A of chapter 32 is amended to read as follows:

''Subpart A—Motor and Aviation Fuels''.

(U) The heading for subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 32 is amended to read as follows:

''Subpart B—Special Provisions Applicable to Fuels Tax''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to aviation-grade kerosene removed, entered, or sold after September 30, 2004.

(f) FLOOR STOCKS TAX.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby imposed on aviation-grade kerosene held on October 1, 2004, by any person a tax equal to—

(A) the tax which would have been imposed before such date on such kerosene had the amendments made by this section been in effect at all times before such date, reduced by

(B) the tax imposed before such date under section 4091 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) LIABILITY FOR TAX AND METHOD OF PAYMENT.—

(A) LIABILITY FOR TAX.—The person holding the kerosene on October 1, 2004, to which the tax imposed by paragraph (1) applies shall be liable for such tax.

(B) METHOD AND TIME FOR PAYMENT.—The tax imposed by paragraph (1) shall be paid at such time and in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe, including the nonapplication of such tax on de minimis amounts of kerosene.

(3) TRANSFER OF FLOOR STOCK TAX REVENUES TO TRUST FUNDS.—For purposes of determining

the amount transferred to any trust fund, the tax imposed by this subsection shall be treated as imposed by section 4081 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986—

(A) at the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund financing rate under such section to the extent of 0.1 cents per gallon, and

(B) at the rate under section 4081(a)(2)(A)(iv) to the extent of the remainder.

(4) HELD BY A PERSON.—For purposes of this section, kerosene shall be considered as held by a person if title thereto has passed to such person (whether or not delivery to the person has been made).

(5) OTHER LAWS APPLICABLE.—All provisions of law, including penalties, applicable with respect to the tax imposed by section 4081 of such Code shall, insofar as applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions of this subsection, apply with respect to the floor stock tax imposed by paragraph (1) to the same extent as if such tax were imposed by such section.

SEC. 5212. TRANSFER OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS FROM THE AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND TO THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND TO REFLECT HIGHWAY USE OF JET FUEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9502(d) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) TRANSFERS FROM THE TRUST FUND TO THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall pay annually from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund into the Highway Trust Fund an amount (as determined by him) equivalent to amounts received in the Airport and Airway Trust Fund which are attributable to fuel that is used primarily for highway transportation purposes.

''(B) AMOUNTS TRANSFERRED TO MASS TRANSIT ACCOUNT.—The Secretary shall transfer 11 percent of the amounts paid into the Highway Trust Fund under subparagraph (A) to the Mass Transit Account established under section 9503(e).''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (a) of section 9503 is amended—

(A) by striking ''appropriated or credited'' and inserting ''paid, appropriated, or credited'', and

(B) by striking ''or section 9602(b)'' and inserting '', section 9502(d)(7), or section 9602(b)''.

(2) Subsection (e)(1) of section 9503 is amended by striking ''or section 9602(b)'' and inserting '', section 9502(d)(7), or section 9602(b)''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2004.

PART II—DYED FUEL

SEC. 5221. DYE INJECTION EQUIPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4082(a)(2) (relating to exemptions for diesel fuel and kerosene) is amended by inserting ''by mechanical injection'' after ''indelibly dyed''.

(b) DYE INJECTOR SECURITY.—Not later than June 30, 2004, the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue regulations regarding mechanical dye injection systems described in the amendment made by subsection (a), and such regulations shall include standards for making such systems tamper resistant.

(c) PENALTY FOR TAMPERING WITH OR FAILING TO MAINTAIN SECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR MECHANICAL DYE INJECTION SYSTEMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 (relating to assessable penalties) is amended by adding after section 6715 the following new section:

''SEC. 6715A. TAMPERING WITH OR FAILING TO MAINTAIN SECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR MECHANICAL DYE INJECTION SYSTEMS.

''(a) IMPOSITION OF PENALTY—

''(1) TAMPERING.—If any person tampers with a mechanical dye injection system used to indelibly dye fuel for purposes of section 4082, then such person shall pay a penalty in addition to the tax (if any).

''(2) FAILURE TO MAINTAIN SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.—If any operator of a mechanical dye injection system used to indelibly dye fuel for purposes of section 4082 fails to maintain the security standards for such system as established by the Secretary, then such operator shall pay a penalty.

''(b) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—The amount of the penalty under subsection (a) shall be—

''(1) for each violation described in paragraph (1), the greater of—

''(A) $25,000, or

''(B) $10 for each gallon of fuel involved, and

''(2) for each—

''(A) failure to maintain security standards described in paragraph (2), $1,000, and

''(B) failure to correct a violation described in paragraph (2), $1,000 per day for each day after which such violation was discovered or such person should have reasonably known of such violation.

''(c) JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If a penalty is imposed under this section on any business entity, each officer, employee, or agent of such entity or other contracting party who willfully participated in any act giving rise to such penalty shall be jointly and severally liable with such entity for such penalty.

''(2) AFFILIATED GROUPS.—If a business entity described in paragraph (1) is part of an affiliated group (as defined in section 1504(a)), the parent corporation of such entity shall be jointly and severally liable with such entity for the penalty imposed under this section.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 is amended by adding after the item related to section 6715 the following new item:

''Sec. 6715A. Tampering with or failing to maintain security requirements for mechanical dye injection systems.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsections (a) and (c) shall take effect 180 days after the date on which the Secretary issues the regulations described in subsection (b).

SEC. 5222. ELIMINATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW FOR TAXABLE USE OF DYED FUEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6715 is amended by inserting at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) NO ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL FOR THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT VIOLATIONS.—In the case of any person who is found to be subject to the penalty under this section after a chemical analysis of such fuel and who has been penalized under this section at least twice after the date of the enactment of this subsection, no administrative appeal or review shall be allowed with respect to such finding except in the case of a claim regarding—

''(1) fraud or mistake in the chemical analysis, or

''(2) mathematical calculation of the amount of the penalty.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to penalties assessed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5223. PENALTY ON UNTAXED CHEMICALLY ALTERED DYED FUEL MIXTURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6715(a) (relating to dyed fuel sold for use or used in taxable use, etc.) is amended by striking ''or'' in paragraph (2), by inserting ''or'' at the end of paragraph (3), and by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph:

''(4) any person who has knowledge that a dyed fuel which has been altered as described in paragraph (3) sells or holds for sale such fuel for any use which the person knows or has reason to know is not a nontaxable use of such fuel,''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 6715(a)(3) is amended by striking ''alters, or attempts to alter,'' and inserting ''alters, chemically or otherwise, or attempts to so alter,''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5224. TERMINATION OF DYED DIESEL USE BY INTERCITY BUSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 4082(b) (relating to nontaxable use) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) any use described in section 4041(a)(1)(C)(iii)(II).''.

(b) ULTIMATE VENDOR REFUND.—Subsection (b) of section 6427 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) REFUNDS FOR USE OF DIESEL FUEL IN CERTAIN INTERCITY BUSES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to any fuel to which paragraph (2)(A) applies, if the ultimate purchaser of such fuel waives (at such time and in such form and manner as the Secretary shall prescribe) the right to payment under paragraph (1) and assigns such right to the ultimate vendor, then the Secretary shall pay the amount which would be paid under paragraph (1) to such ultimate vendor, but only if such ultimate vendor—

''(i) is registered under section 4101, and

''(ii) meets the requirements of subparagraph (A), (B), or (D) of section 6416(a)(1).

''(B) CREDIT CARDS.—For purposes of this paragraph, if the sale of such fuel is made by means of a credit card, the person extending credit to the ultimate purchaser shall be deemed to be the ultimate vendor.''.

(c) PAYMENT OF REFUNDS.—Subparagraph (A) of section 6427(i)(4), as amended by section 5211 of this Act, is amended by inserting ''subsections (b)(4) and'' after ''filed under''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel sold after September 30, 2004.

PART III—MODIFICATION OF INSPECTION OF RECORDS PROVISIONS

SEC. 5231. AUTHORITY TO INSPECT ON-SITE RECORDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4083(d)(1)(A) (relating to administrative authority), as amended by section 5211 of this Act, is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (i) and by inserting after clause (ii) the following new clause:

''(iii) inspecting any books and records and any shipping papers pertaining to such fuel, and''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5232. ASSESSABLE PENALTY FOR REFUSAL OF ENTRY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 (relating to assessable penalties), as amended by section 5221 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 6717. REFUSAL OF ENTRY.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other penalty provided by law, any person who refuses to admit entry or refuses to permit any other action by the Secretary authorized by section 4083(d)(1) shall pay a penalty of $1,000 for such refusal.

''(b) JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If a penalty is imposed under this section on any business entity, each officer, employee, or agent of such entity or other contracting party who willfully participated in any act giving rise to such penalty shall be jointly and severally liable with such entity for such penalty.

''(2) AFFILIATED GROUPS.—If a business entity described in paragraph (1) is part of an affiliated group (as defined in section 1504(a)), the parent corporation of such entity shall be jointly and severally liable with such entity for the penalty imposed under this section.

''(c) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—No penalty shall be imposed under this section with respect to any failure if it is shown that such failure is due to reasonable cause.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 4083(d)(3), as amended by section 5211 of this Act, is amended—

(A) by striking ''ENTRY.—The penalty'' and inserting: ''ENTRY.—

''(A) FORFEITURE.—The penalty'', and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(B) ASSESSABLE PENALTY.—For additional assessable penalty for the refusal to admit entry or other refusal to permit an action by the Secretary authorized by paragraph (1), see section 6717.''.

(2) The table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68, as amended by section 5221 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 6717. Refusal of entry.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2004.

PART IV—REGISTRATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 5241. REGISTRATION OF PIPELINE OR VESSEL OPERATORS REQUIRED FOR EXEMPTION OF BULK TRANSFERS TO REGISTERED TERMINALS OR REFINERIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4081(a)(1)(B) (relating to exemption for bulk transfers to registered terminals or refineries) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''by pipeline or vessel'' after ''transferred in bulk'', and

(2) by inserting '', the operator of such pipeline or vessel,'' after ''the taxable fuel''.

(b) CIVIL PENALTY FOR CARRYING TAXABLE FUELS BY NONREGISTERED PIPELINES OR VESSELS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 (relating to assessable penalties), as amended by section 5232 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 6718. CARRYING TAXABLE FUELS BY NONREGISTERED PIPELINES OR VESSELS.

''(a) IMPOSITION OF PENALTY.—If any person knowingly transfers any taxable fuel (as defined in section 4083(a)(1)) in bulk pursuant to section 4081(a)(1)(B) to an unregistered, such person shall pay a penalty in addition to the tax (if any).

''(b) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amount of the penalty under subsection (a) on each act shall be an amount equal to the greater of—

''(A) $10,000, or

''(B) $1 per gallon.

''(2) MULTIPLE VIOLATIONS.—In determining the penalty under subsection (a) on any person, paragraph (1) shall be applied by increasing the amount in paragraph (1) by the product of such amount and the number of prior penalties (if any) imposed by this section on such person (or a related person or any predecessor of such person or related person).

''(c) JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If a penalty is imposed under this section on any business entity, each officer, employee, or agent of such entity or other contracting party who willfully participated in any act giving rise to such penalty shall be jointly and severally liable with such entity for such penalty.

''(2) AFFILIATED GROUPS.—If a business entity described in paragraph (1) is part of an affiliated group (as defined in section 1504(a)), the parent corporation of such entity shall be jointly and severally liable with such entity for the penalty imposed under this section.

''(d) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—No penalty shall be imposed under this section with respect to any failure if it is shown that such failure is due to reasonable cause.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68, as amended by section 5232 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 6718. Carrying taxable fuels by nonregistered pipelines or vessels.''.

(c) PUBLICATION OF REGISTERED PERSONS.—Not later than June 30, 2004, the Secretary of the Treasury shall publish a list of persons required to be registered under section 4101 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect on October 1, 2004.

SEC. 5242. DISPLAY OF REGISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 4101 (relating to registration) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Every'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Every'', and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) DISPLAY OF REGISTRATION.—Every operator of a vessel required by the Secretary to register under this section shall display proof of registration through an electronic identification device prescribed by the Secretary on each vessel used by such operator to transport any taxable fuel.''.

(b) CIVIL PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO DISPLAY REGISTRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 (relating to assessable penalties), as amended by section 5241 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 6719. FAILURE TO DISPLAY REGISTRATION OF VESSEL.

''(a) FAILURE TO DISPLAY REGISTRATION.—Every operator of a vessel who fails to display proof of registration pursuant to section 4101(a)(2) shall pay a penalty of $500 for each such failure. With respect to any vessel, only one penalty shall be imposed by this section during any calendar month.

''(b) MULTIPLE VIOLATIONS.—In determining the penalty under subsection (a) on any person, subsection (a) shall be applied by increasing the amount in subsection (a) by the product of such amount and the number of prior penalties (if any) imposed by this section on such person (or a related person or any predecessor of such person or related person).

''(c) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—No penalty shall be imposed under this section with respect to any failure if it is shown that such failure is due to reasonable cause.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68, as amended by section 5241 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 6719. Failure to display registration of vessel.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2004.

SEC. 5243. REGISTRATION OF PERSONS WITHIN FOREIGN TRADE ZONES, ETC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4101(a), as amended by section 5242 of this Act, is amended by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3), and by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

''(2) REGISTRATION OF PERSONS WITHIN FOREIGN TRADE ZONES, ETC..—The Secretary shall require registration by any person which—

''(A) operates a terminal or refinery within a foreign trade zone or within a customs bonded storage facility, or

''(B) holds an inventory position with respect to a taxable fuel in such a terminal.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2004.

SEC. 5244. PENALTIES FOR FAILURE TO REGISTER AND FAILURE TO REPORT.

(a) INCREASED PENALTY.—Subsection (a) of section 7272 (relating to penalty for failure to register) is amended by inserting ''($10,000 in the case of a failure to register under section 4101)'' after ''$50''.

(b) INCREASED CRIMINAL PENALTY.—Section 7232 (relating to failure to register under section 4101, false representations of registration status, etc.) is amended by striking ''$5,000'' and inserting ''$10,000''.

(c) ASSESSABLE PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REGISTER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 (relating to assessable penalties), as amended by section 5242 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 6720. FAILURE TO REGISTER.

''(a) FAILURE TO REGISTER.—Every person who is required to register under section 4101 and fails to do so shall pay a penalty in addition to the tax (if any).

''(b) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—The amount of the penalty under subsection (a) shall be—

''(1) $10,000 for each initial failure to register, and

''(2) $1,000 for each day thereafter such person fails to register.

''(c) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—No penalty shall be imposed under this section with respect to any failure if it is shown that such failure is due to reasonable cause.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68, as amended by section 5242 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 6720. Failure to register.''.

(d) ASSESSABLE PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part II of subchapter B of chapter 68 (relating to assessable penalties) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 6725. FAILURE TO REPORT INFORMATION UNDER SECTION 4101.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of each failure described in subsection (b) by any person with respect to a vessel or facility, such person shall pay a penalty of $10,000 in addition to the tax (if any).

''(b) FAILURES SUBJECT TO PENALTY.—For purposes of subsection (a), the failures described in this subsection are—

''(1) any failure to make a report under section 4101(d) on or before the date prescribed therefor, and

''(2) any failure to include all of the information required to be shown on such report or the inclusion of incorrect information.

''(c) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—No penalty shall be imposed under this section with respect to any failure if it is shown that such failure is due to reasonable cause.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part II of subchapter B of chapter 68 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 6725. Failure to report information under section 4101.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to failures pending or occurring after September 30, 2004.

SEC. 5245. INFORMATION REPORTING FOR PERSONS CLAIMING CERTAIN TAX BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart C of part III of subchapter A of chapter 32 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 4104. INFORMATION REPORTING FOR PERSONS CLAIMING CERTAIN TAX BENEFITS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require any person claiming tax benefits—

''(1) under the provisions of section 34, 40, and 40A to file a return at the time such person claims such benefits (in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe), and

''(2) under the provisions of section 4041(b)(2), 6426, or 6427(e) to file a monthly return (in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe).

''(b) CONTENTS OF RETURN.—Any return filed under this section shall provide such information relating to such benefits and the coordination of such benefits as the Secretary may require to ensure the proper administration and use of such benefits.

''(c) ENFORCEMENT.—With respect to any person described in subsection (a) and subject to registration requirements under this title, rules similar to rules of section 4222(c) shall apply with respect to any requirement under this section.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart C of part III of subchapter A of chapter 32 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 4104. Information reporting for persons claiming certain tax benefits.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2004.

SEC. 5246. ELECTRONIC REPORTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4101(d), as amended by section 5273 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Any person who is required to report under this subsection and who has 25 or more reportable transactions in a month shall file such report in electronic format.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply on October 1, 2004.

PART V—IMPORTS

SEC. 5251. TAX AT POINT OF ENTRY WHERE IMPORTER NOT REGISTERED.

(a) TAX AT POINT OF ENTRY WHERE IMPORTER NOT REGISTERED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subpart C of part III of subchapter A of chapter 31, as amended by section 5245 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 4105. TAX AT ENTRY WHERE IMPORTER NOT REGISTERED.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Any tax imposed under this part on any person not registered under section 4101 for the entry of a fuel into the United States shall be imposed at the time and point of entry.

''(b) ENFORCEMENT OF ASSESSMENT.—If any person liable for any tax described under subsection (a) has not paid the tax or posted a bond, the Secretary may—

''(1) seize the fuel on which the tax is due, or

''(2) detain any vehicle transporting such fuel,

until such tax is paid or such bond is filed.

''(c) LEVY OF FUEL.—If no tax has been paid or no bond has been filed within 5 days from the date the Secretary seized fuel pursuant to subsection (b), the Secretary may sell such fuel as provided under section 6336.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart C of part III of subchapter A of chapter 31 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by section 5245 of this Act, is amended by adding after the last item the following new item:

''Sec. 4105. Tax at entry where importer not registered.''.

(b) DENIAL OF ENTRY WHERE TAX NOT PAID.—The Secretary of Homeland Security is authorized to deny entry into the United States of any shipment of a fuel which is taxable under section 4081 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 if the person entering such shipment fails to pay the tax imposed under such section or post a bond in accordance with the provisions of section 4105 of such Code.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5252. RECONCILIATION OF ON-LOADED CARGO TO ENTERED CARGO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 343 of the Trade Act of 2002 is amended by inserting at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), not later than 1 year after the enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary of Homeland Security, together with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall promulgate regulations providing for the transmission to the Internal Revenue Service, through an electronic data interchange system, of information pertaining to cargo of taxable fuels (as defined in section 4083 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) destined for importation into the United States prior to such importation.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

PART VI—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 5261. TAX ON SALE OF DIESEL FUEL WHETHER SUITABLE FOR USE OR NOT IN A DIESEL-POWERED VEHICLE OR TRAIN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4083(a)(3) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The term'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term'', and

(2) by inserting at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(B) LIQUID SOLD AS DIESEL FUEL.—The term 'diesel fuel' includes any liquid which is sold as or offered for sale as a fuel in a diesel-powered highway vehicle or a diesel-powered train.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 40A(b)(1)(B), as amended by section 5103 of this Act, is amended by striking ''4083(a)(3)'' and inserting ''4083(a)(3)(A)''.

(2) Section 6426(c)(3), as added by section 5102 of this Act, is amended by striking ''4083(a)(3)'' and inserting ''4083(a)(3)(A)''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5262. MODIFICATION OF ULTIMATE VENDOR REFUND CLAIMS WITH RESPECT TO FARMING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) REFUNDS.—Section 6427(l) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) REGISTERED VENDORS PERMITTED TO ADMINISTER CERTAIN CLAIMS FOR REFUND OF DIESEL FUEL AND KEROSENE SOLD TO FARMERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of diesel fuel or kerosene used on a farm for farming purposes (within the meaning of section 6420(c)), paragraph (1) shall not apply to the aggregate amount of such diesel fuel or kerosene if such amount does not exceed 500 gallons (as determined under subsection (i)(5)(A)(iii)).

''(B) PAYMENT TO ULTIMATE VENDOR.—The amount which would (but for subparagraph (A)) have been paid under paragraph (1) with respect to any fuel shall be paid to the ultimate vendor of such fuel, if such vendor—

''(i) is registered under section 4101, and

''(ii) meets the requirements of subparagraph (A), (B), or (D) of section 6416(a)(1).''.

(2) FILING OF CLAIMS.—Section 6427(i) is amended by inserting at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) SPECIAL RULE FOR VENDOR REFUNDS WITH RESPECT TO FARMERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A claim may be filed under subsection (l)(6) by any person with respect to fuel sold by such person for any period—

''(i) for which $200 or more ($100 or more in the case of kerosene) is payable under subsection (l)(6),

''(ii) which is not less than 1 week, and

''(iii) which is for not more than 500 gallons for each farmer for which there is a claim.

Notwithstanding subsection (l)(1), paragraph (3)(B) shall apply to claims filed under the preceding sentence.

''(B) TIME FOR FILING CLAIM.—No claim filed under this paragraph shall be allowed unless filed on or before the last day of the first quarter following the earliest quarter included in the claim.''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 6427(l)(5)(A) is amended to read as follows:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to diesel fuel or kerosene used by a State or local government.''.

(B) The heading for section 6427(l)(5) is amended by striking ''FARMERS AND''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to fuels sold for nontaxable use after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5263. TAXABLE FUEL REFUNDS FOR CERTAIN ULTIMATE VENDORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (4) of section 6416(a) (relating to abatements, credits, and refunds) is amended to read as follows:

''(4) REGISTERED ULTIMATE VENDOR TO ADMINISTER CREDITS AND REFUNDS OF GASOLINE TAX.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subsection, if an ultimate vendor purchases any gasoline on which tax imposed by section 4081 has been paid and sells such gasoline to an ultimate purchaser described in subparagraph (C) or (D) of subsection (b)(2) (and such gasoline is for a use described in such subparagraph), such ultimate vendor shall be treated as the person (and the only person) who paid such tax, but only if such ultimate vendor is registered under section 4101. For purposes of this subparagraph, if the sale of gasoline is made by means of a credit card, the person extending the credit to the ultimate purchaser shall be deemed to be the ultimate vendor.

''(B) TIMING OF CLAIMS.—The procedure and timing of any claim under subparagraph (A) shall be the same as for claims under section 6427(i)(4), except that the rules of section 6427(i)(3)(B) regarding electronic claims shall not apply unless the ultimate vendor has certified to the Secretary for the most recent quarter of the taxable year that all ultimate purchasers of the vendor are certified and entitled to a refund under subparagraph (C) or (D) of subsection (b)(2).''.

(b) CREDIT CARD PURCHASES OF DIESEL FUEL OR KEROSENE BY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—Section 6427(l)(5)(C) (relating to nontaxable uses of diesel fuel, kerosene, and aviation fuel), as amended by section 5252 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''For purposes of this subparagraph, if the sale of diesel fuel or kerosene is made by means of a credit card, the person extending the credit to the ultimate purchaser shall be deemed to be the ultimate vendor.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2004.

SEC. 5264. TWO-PARTY EXCHANGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart C of part III of subchapter A of chapter 32, as amended by section 5251 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 4106. TWO-PARTY EXCHANGES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—In a two-party exchange, the delivering person shall not be liable for the tax imposed under of section 4081(a)(1)(A)(ii).

''(b) TWO-PARTY EXCHANGE.—The term 'two-party exchange' means a transaction, other than a sale, in which taxable fuel is transferred from a delivering person registered under section 4101 as a taxable fuel registrant to a receiving person who is so registered where all of the following occur:

''(1) The transaction includes a transfer from the delivering person, who holds the inventory position for taxable fuel in the terminal as reflected in the records of the terminal operator.

''(2) The exchange transaction occurs before or contemporaneous with completion of removal across the rack from the terminal by the receiving person.

''(3) The terminal operator in its books and records treats the receiving person as the person that removes the product across the terminal rack for purposes of reporting the transaction to the Secretary.

''(4) The transaction is the subject of a written contract.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart C of part III of subchapter A of chapter 32, as amended by section 5251 of this Act, is amended by adding after the last item the following new item:

''Sec. 4106. Two-party exchanges.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5265. MODIFICATIONS OF TAX ON USE OF CERTAIN VEHICLES.

(a) NO PRORATION OF TAX UNLESS VEHICLE IS DESTROYED OR STOLEN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4481(c) (relating to proration of tax) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) PRORATION OF TAX WHERE VEHICLE SOLD, DESTROYED, OR STOLEN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If in any taxable period a highway motor vehicle is sold, destroyed, or stolen before the first day of the last month in such period and not subsequently used during such taxable period, the tax shall be reckoned proportionately from the first day of the month in such period in which the first use of such highway motor vehicle occurs to and including the last day of the month in which such highway motor vehicle was sold, destroyed, or stolen.

''(2) DESTROYED.—For purposes of paragraph (1), a highway motor vehicle is destroyed if such vehicle is damaged by reason of an accident or other casualty to such an extent that it is not economic to rebuild.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 6156 (relating to installment payment of tax on use of highway motor vehicles) is repealed.

(B) The table of sections for subchapter A of chapter 62 is amended by striking the item relating to section 6156.

(b) DISPLAY OF TAX CERTIFICATE.—Paragraph (2) of section 4481(d) (relating to one tax liability for period) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) DISPLAY OF TAX CERTIFICATE.—Every taxpayer which pays the tax imposed under this section with respect to a highway motor vehicle shall, not later than 1 month after the due date of the return of tax with respect to each taxable period, receive and display on such vehicle an electronic identification device prescribed by the Secretary.''.

(c) ELECTRONIC FILING.—Section 4481, as amended by section 5001 of this Act, is amended by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f) and by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection:

''(e) ELECTRONIC FILING.—Any taxpayer who files a return under this section with respect to 25 or more vehicles for any taxable period shall file such return electronically.''.

(d) REPEAL OF REDUCTION IN TAX FOR CERTAIN TRUCKS.—Section 4483 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking subsection (f).

(e) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable periods beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) SUBSECTION (b).—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall take effect on October 1, 2005.

SEC. 5266. DEDICATION OF REVENUES FROM CERTAIN PENALTIES TO THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 9503 (relating to transfer to Highway Trust Fund of amounts equivalent to certain taxes), as amended by section 5001 of this Act, is amended by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (6) and inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:

''(5) CERTAIN PENALTIES.—There are hereby appropriated to the Highway Trust Fund amounts equivalent to the penalties assessed under sections 6715, 6715A, 6717, 6718, 6719, 6720, 6725, 7232, and 7272 (but only with regard to penalties under such section related to failure to register under section 4101).''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The heading of subsection (b) of section 9503 is amended by inserting ''AND PENALTIES'' after ''TAXES''.

(2) The heading of paragraph (1) of section 9503(b) is amended by striking ''IN GENERAL'' and inserting ''CERTAIN TAXES''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to penalties assessed after October 1, 2004.

SEC. 5267. NONAPPLICATION OF EXPORT EXEMPTION TO DELIVERY OF FUEL TO MOTOR VEHICLES REMOVED FROM UNITED STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4221(d)(2) (defining export) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Such term does not include the delivery of a taxable fuel (as defined in section 4083(a)(1)) into a fuel tank of a motor vehicle which is shipped or driven out of the United States.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 4041(g) (relating to other exemptions) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Paragraph (3) shall not apply to the sale for delivery of a liquid into a fuel tank of a motor vehicle which is shipped or driven out of the United States.''.

(2) Clause (iv) of section 4081(a)(1)(A) (relating to tax on removal, entry, or sale) is amended by inserting ''or at a duty-free sales enterprise (as defined in section 555(b)(8) of the Tariff Act of 1930)'' after ''section 4101''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to sales or deliveries made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

PART VII—TOTAL ACCOUNTABILITY

SEC. 5271. TOTAL ACCOUNTABILITY.

(a) TAXATION OF REPORTABLE LIQUIDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4081(a), as amended by this Act, is amended—

(A) by inserting ''or reportable liquid'' after ''taxable fuel'' each place it appears, and

(B) by inserting ''such liquid'' after ''such fuel'' in paragraph (1)(A)(iv).

(2) RATE OF TAX.—Subparagraph (A) of section 4081(a)(2), as amended by section 5211 of this Act, is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (iii), by striking the period at the end of clause (iv) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(v) in the case of reportable liquids, the rate determined under section 4083(c)(2).''.

(3) EXEMPTION.—Section 4081(a)(1) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) EXEMPTION FOR REGISTERED TRANSFERS OF REPORTABLE LIQUIDS.—The tax imposed by this paragraph shall not apply to any removal, entry, or sale of a reportable liquid if—

''(i) such removal, entry, or sale is to a registered person who certifies that such liquid will not be used as a fuel or in the production of a fuel, or

''(ii) the sale is to the ultimate purchaser of such liquid.''.

(4) REPORTABLE LIQUIDS.—Section 4083, as amended by this Act, is amended by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) (as redesignated by section 5211 of this Act) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively, and by inserting after subsection (b) the following new section:

''(c) REPORTABLE LIQUID.—For purposes of this subpart—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'reportable liquid' means any petroleum-based liquid other than a taxable fuel.

''(2) TAXATION.—

''(A) GASOLINE BLEND STOCKS AND ADDITIVES.—Gasoline blend stocks and additives which are reportable liquids (as defined in paragraph (1)) shall be subject to the rate of tax under clause (i) of section 4081(a)(2)(A).

''(B) OTHER REPORTABLE LIQUIDS.—Any reportable liquid (as defined in paragraph (1)) not described in subparagraph (A) shall be subject to the rate of tax under clause (iii) of section 4081(a)(2)(A).''.

(5) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 4081(e) is amended by inserting ''or reportable liquid'' after ''taxable fuel''.

(B) Section 4083(d) (relating to certain use defined as removal), as redesignated by paragraph (4), is amended by inserting ''or reportable liquid'' after ''taxable fuel''.

(C) Section 4083(e)(1) (relating to administrative authority), as redesignated by paragraph (4), is amended—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by inserting ''or reportable liquid'' after ''taxable fuel'', and

(II) by inserting ''or such liquid'' after ''such fuel'' each place it appears, and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ''or any reportable liquid'' after ''any taxable fuel''.

(D) Section 4101(a)(2), as added by section 5243 of this Act, is amended by inserting ''or a reportable liquid'' after ''taxable fuel''.

(E) Section 4101(a)(3), as added by section 5242 of this Act and redesignated by section 5243 of this Act, is amended by inserting ''or any reportable liquid'' before the period at the end.

(F) Section 4102 is amended by inserting ''or any reportable liquid'' before the period at the end.

(G)(i) Section 6718, as added by section 5241 of this Act, is amended—

(I) in subsection (a), by inserting ''or any reportable liquid (as defined in section 4083(c)(1))'' after '' section 4083(a)(1))'', and

(II) in the heading, by inserting ''or reportable liquids'' after ''taxable fuel''.

(ii) The item relating to section 6718 in table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68, as added by section 5241 of this Act, is amended by inserting ''or reportable liquids'' after ''taxable fuels''.

(H) Section 6427(h) is amended to read as follows:

''(h) GASOLINE BLEND STOCKS OR ADDITIVES AND REPORTABLE LIQUIDS.—Except as provided in subsection (k)—

''(1) if any gasoline blend stock or additive (within the meaning of section 4083(a)(2)) is not used by any person to produce gasoline and such person establishes that the ultimate use of such gasoline blend stock or additive is not to produce gasoline, or

''(2) if any reportable liquid (within the meaning of section 4083(c)(1)) is not used by any person to produce a taxable fuel and such person establishes that the ultimate use of such reportable liquid is not to produce a taxable fuel,

then the Secretary shall pay (without interest) to such person an amount equal to the aggregate amount of the tax imposed on such person with respect to such gasoline blend stock or additive or such reportable fuel.''.

(I) Section 7232, as amended by this Act, is amended by inserting ''or reportable liquid (within the meaning of section 4083(c)(1))'' after ''section 4083)''.

(J) Section 343 of the Trade Act of 2002, as amended by section 5252 of this Act, is amended by inserting ''and reportable liquids (as defined in section 4083(c)(1) of such Code)'' after ''Internal Revenue Code of 1986)''.

(b) DYED DIESEL.—Section 4082(a) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting ''and'', and by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph:

''(4) which is removed, entered, or sold by a person registered under section 4101.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to reportable liquids (as defined in section 4083(c) of the Internal Revenue Code) and fuel sold or used after September 30, 2004.

SEC. 5272. EXCISE TAX REPORTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part II of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by adding at the end the following new subpart:

''Subpart E—Excise Tax Reporting

''SEC. 6025. RETURNS RELATING TO FUEL TAXES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require any person liable for the tax imposed under Part

III of subchapter A of chapter 32 to file a return of such tax on a monthly basis.

''(b) INFORMATION INCLUDED WITH RETURN.—The Secretary shall require any person filing a return under subsection (a) to provide information regarding any refined product (whether or not such product is taxable under this title) removed from a terminal during the period for which such return applies.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of parts for subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Subpart E—Excise Tax Reporting''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel sold or used after September 30, 2004.

SEC. 5273. INFORMATION REPORTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4101(d) is amended by adding at the end the following new flush sentence:

''The Secretary shall require reporting under the previous sentence with respect to taxable fuels removed, entered, or transferred from any refinery, pipeline, or vessel which is registered under this section.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply on October 1, 2004.

Subtitle D—Definition of Highway Vehicle

SEC. 5301. EXEMPTION FROM CERTAIN EXCISE TAXES FOR MOBILE MACHINERY.

(a) EXEMPTION FROM TAX ON HEAVY TRUCKS AND TRAILERS SOLD AT RETAIL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4053 (relating to exemptions) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) MOBILE MACHINERY.—Any vehicle which consists of a chassis—

''(A) to which there has been permanently mounted (by welding, bolting, riveting, or other means) machinery or equipment to perform a construction, manufacturing, processing, farming, mining, drilling, timbering, or similar operation if the operation of the machinery or equipment is unrelated to transportation on or off the public highways,

''(B) which has been specially designed to serve only as a mobile carriage and mount (and a power source, where applicable) for the particular machinery or equipment involved, whether or not such machinery or equipment is in operation, and

''(C) which, by reason of such special design, could not, without substantial structural modification, be used as a component of a vehicle designed to perform a function of transporting any load other than that particular machinery or equipment or similar machinery or equipment requiring such a specially designed chassis.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall take effect on the day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) EXEMPTION FROM TAX ON USE OF CERTAIN VEHICLES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4483 (relating to exemptions) is amended by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h) and by inserting after subsection (f) the following new subsection:

''(g) EXEMPTION FOR MOBILE MACHINERY.—No tax shall be imposed by section 4481 on the use of any vehicle described in section 4053(8).''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect on the day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) EXEMPTION FROM FUEL TAXES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6421(e)(2) (defining off-highway business use) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) USES IN MOBILE MACHINERY.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'off-highway business use' shall include any use in a vehicle which meets the requirements described in clause (ii).

''(ii) REQUIREMENTS FOR MOBILE MACHINERY.—The requirements described in this clause are—

''(I) the design-based test, and

''(II) the use-based test.

''(iii) DESIGN-BASED TEST.—For purposes of clause (ii)(I), the design-based test is met if the vehicle consists of a chassis—

''(I) to which there has been permanently mounted (by welding, bolting, riveting, or other means) machinery or equipment to perform a construction, manufacturing, processing, farming, mining, drilling, timbering, or similar operation if the operation of the machinery or equipment is unrelated to transportation on or off the public highways,

''(II) which has been specially designed to serve only as a mobile carriage and mount (and a power source, where applicable) for the particular machinery or equipment involved, whether or not such machinery or equipment is in operation, and

''(III) which, by reason of such special design, could not, without substantial structural modification, be used as a component of a vehicle designed to perform a function of transporting any load other than that particular machinery or equipment or similar machinery or equipment requiring such a specially designed chassis.

''(iv) USE-BASED TEST.—For purposes of clause (ii)(II), the use-based test is met if the use of the vehicle on public highways was less than 5,000 miles during the taxpayer's taxable year.

''(v) SPECIAL RULE FOR USE BY CERTAIN TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS.—In the case of any use in a vehicle by an organization which is described in section 501(c) and exempt from tax under section 501(a), clause (ii) shall be applied without regard to subclause (II) thereof.''.

(2) ANNUAL REFUND OF TAX PAID.—Section 6427(i)(2) (relating to exceptions) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) NONAPPLICATION OF PARAGRAPH.—This paragraph shall not apply to any fuel used in any off-highway business use described in section 6421(e)(2)(C).''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5302. MODIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7701(a) (relating to definitions) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(48) OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES.—

''(A) OFF-HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A vehicle shall not be treated as a highway vehicle if such vehicle is specially designed for the primary function of transporting a particular type of load other than over the public highway and because of this special design such vehicle's capability to transport a load over the public highway is substantially limited or impaired.

''(ii) DETERMINATION OF VEHICLE'S DESIGN.—For purposes of clause (i), a vehicle's design is determined solely on the basis of its physical characteristics.

''(iii) DETERMINATION OF SUBSTANTIAL LIMITATION OR IMPAIRMENT.—For purposes of clause (i), in determining whether substantial limitation or impairment exists, account may be taken of factors such as the size of the vehicle, whether such vehicle is subject to the licensing, safety, and other requirements applicable to highway vehicles, and whether such vehicle can transport a load at a sustained speed of at least 25 miles per hour. It is immaterial that a vehicle can transport a greater load off the public highway than such vehicle is permitted to transport over the public highway.

''(B) NONTRANSPORTATION TRAILERS AND SEMITRAILERS.—A trailer or semitrailer shall not be treated as a highway vehicle if it is specially designed to function only as an enclosed stationary shelter for the carrying on of an off-highway function at an off-highway site.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendment made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) FUEL TAXES.—With respect to taxes imposed under subchapter B of chapter 31 and part III of subchapter A of chapter 32, the amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable periods beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle E—Excise Tax Reform and Simplification

PART I—HIGHWAY EXCISE TAXES

SEC. 5401. DEDICATION OF GAS GUZZLER TAX TO HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9503(b)(1) (relating to transfer to Highway Trust Fund of amounts equivalent to certain taxes), as amended by section 5101 of this Act, is amended by redesignating subparagraphs (C), (D), and (E) as subparagraphs (D), (E), and (F), respectively, and by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

''(C) section 4064 (relating to gas guzzler tax),''.

(b) UNIFORM APPLICATION OF TAX.—Subparagraph (A) of section 4064(b)(1) (defining automobile) is amended by striking the second sentence.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5402. REPEAL CERTAIN EXCISE TAXES ON RAIL DIESEL FUEL AND INLAND WATERWAY BARGE FUELS.

(a) TAXES ON TRAINS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 4041(a)(1) is amended by striking ''or a diesel-powered train'' each place it appears and by striking ''or train''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subparagraph (C) of section 4041(a)(1), as amended by section 5001 of this Act, is amended by striking clause (ii) and by redesignating clause (iii) as clause (ii).

(B) Subparagraph (C) of section 4041(b)(1) is amended by striking all that follows ''section 6421(e)(2)'' and inserting a period.

(C) Subsection (d) of section 4041 is amended by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4) and by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

''(3) DIESEL FUEL USED IN TRAINS.—There is hereby imposed a tax of 0.1 cent per gallon on any liquid other than gasoline (as defined in section 4083)—

''(A) sold by any person to an owner, lessee, or other operator of a diesel-powered train for use as a fuel in such train, or

''(B) used by any person as a fuel in a diesel-powered train unless there was a taxable sale of such fuel under subparagraph (A).

No tax shall be imposed by this paragraph on the sale or use of any liquid if tax was imposed on such liquid under section 4081.''.

(D) Subsection (f) of section 4082 is amended by striking ''section 4041(a)(1)'' and inserting ''subsections (d)(3) and (a)(1) of section 4041, respectively''.

(E) Subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 4083(a)(3), as amended by section 5261 of this Act, are amended by striking ''or a diesel-powered train''.

(F) Paragraph (3) of section 6421(f) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) GASOLINE USED IN TRAINS.—In the case of gasoline used as a fuel in a train, this section shall not apply with respect to the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund financing rate under section 4081.''.

(G) Paragraph (3) of section 6427(l) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) REFUND OF CERTAIN TAXES ON FUEL USED IN DIESEL-POWERED TRAINS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'nontaxable use' includes fuel used in a diesel-powered train. The preceding sentence shall not apply to the tax

imposed by section 4041(d) and the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund financing rate under section 4081 except with respect to fuel sold for exclusive use by a State or any political subdivision thereof.''.

(b) FUEL USED ON INLAND WATERWAYS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 4042(b) is amended by adding ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking '', and'' at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting a period, and by striking subparagraph (C).

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (2) of section 4042(b) is amended by striking subparagraph (C).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2004.

PART II—AQUATIC EXCISE TAXES

SEC. 5411. ELIMINATION OF AQUATIC RESOURCES TRUST FUND AND TRANSFORMATION OF SPORT FISH RESTORATION ACCOUNT.

(a) SIMPLIFICATION OF FUNDING FOR BOAT SAFETY ACCOUNT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 9503(c)(3) (relating to transfers from Trust Fund for motorboat fuel taxes), as redesignated by section 5002 of this Act, is amended—

(A) by striking ''Fund—'' and all that follows through ''shall be transferred'' in subparagraph (B) and inserting ''Fund which is attributable to motorboat fuel taxes shall be transferred'', and

(B) by striking subparagraph (A), and

(C) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (E) as subparagraphs (A) through (D), respectively.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 9503(b)(4), as amended by section 5102 of this Act, is amended—

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

(ii) by striking the comma at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting a period, and

(iii) by striking subparagraph (D).

(B) Subparagraph (B) of section 9503(c)(3), as redesignated by section 5002 of this Act and subsection (a)(3), is amended—

(i) by striking ''ACCOUNT'' in the heading and inserting ''TRUST FUND'',

(ii) by striking ''or (B)'' in clause (ii), and

(iii) by striking ''Account in the Aquatic Resources''.

(C) Subparagraph (C) of section 9503(c)(3), as redesignated by section 5002 of this Act and subsection (a)(3), is amended by striking '', but only to the extent such taxes are deposited into the Highway Trust Fund''.

(D) Paragraph (4) of section 9503(c), as redesignated by section 5002 of this Act, is amended—

(i) by striking ''Account in the Aquatic Resources'' in subparagraph (A), and

(ii) by striking '', but only to the extent such taxes are deposited into the Highway Trust Fund'' in subparagraph (B).

(b) MERGING OF ACCOUNTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 9504 is amended to read as follows:

''(a) CREATION OF TRUST FUND.—There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a trust fund to be known as the 'Sport Fish Restoration Trust Fund'. Such Trust Fund shall consist of such amounts as may be appropriated, credited, or paid to it as provided in this section, section 9503(c)(3), section 9503(c)(4), or section 9602(b).''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subsection (b) of section 9504 is amended—

(i) by striking ''ACCOUNT'' in the heading and inserting ''TRUST FUND'',

(ii) by striking ''Account'' both places it appears in paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting ''Trust Fund'', and

(iii) by striking ''ACCOUNT'' both places it appears in the headings for paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting ''TRUST FUND''.

(B) Subsection (d) of section 9504, as amended by section 5001 of this Act, is amended—

(i) by striking ''AQUATIC RESOURCES'' in the heading,

(ii) by striking ''any Account in the Aquatic Resources'' in paragraph (1) and inserting ''the Sports Fish Restoration'', and

(iii) by striking ''any such Account'' in paragraph (1) and inserting ''such Trust Fund''.

(C) Subsection (e) of section 9504, as amended by section 5002 of this Act, is amended by striking ''Boat Safety Account and Sport Fish Restoration Account'' and inserting ''Sport Fish Restoration Trust Fund''.

(D) Section 9504 is amended by striking ''***AQUATIC RESOURCES***'' in the heading and inserting ''***SPORT FISH RESTORATION***''.

(E) The item relating to section 9504 in the table of sections for subchapter A of chapter 98 is amended by striking ''aquatic resources'' and inserting ''sport fish restoration''.

(c) PHASEOUT OF BOAT SAFETY ACCOUNT.—Subsection (c) of section 9504 is amended to read as follows:

''(c) EXPENDITURES FROM BOAT SAFETY ACCOUNT.—Amounts remaining in the Boat Safety Account on October 1, 2004, and amounts thereafter credited to the Account under section 9602(b), shall be available, as provided by appropriation Acts, for making expenditures before October 1, 2009, to carry out the purposes of section 13106 of title 46, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004).''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2004.

SEC. 5412. EXEMPTION OF LED DEVICES FROM SONAR DEVICES SUITABLE FOR FINDING FISH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4162(b) (defining sonar device suitable for finding fish) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting '', or'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) an LED display.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to articles sold by the manufacturer, producer, or importer after September 30, 2004.

SEC. 5413. REPEAL OF HARBOR MAINTENANCE TAX ON EXPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d) of section 4462 (relating to definitions and special rules) is amended to read as follows:

''(d) NONAPPLICABILITY OF TAX TO EXPORTS.—The tax imposed by section 4461(a) shall not apply to any port use with respect to any commercial cargo to be exported from the United States.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 4461(c)(1) is amended by adding ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking subparagraph (B), and by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

(2) Section 4461(c)(2) is amended by striking ''imposed—'' and all that follows through ''in any other case,'' and inserting ''imposed''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect before, on, and after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5414. CAP ON EXCISE TAX ON CERTAIN FISHING EQUIPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 4161(a) (relating to sport fishing equipment) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) IMPOSITION OF TAX.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby imposed on the sale of any article of sport fishing equipment by the manufacturer, producer, or importer a tax equal to 10 percent of the price for which so sold.

''(B) LIMITATION ON TAX IMPOSED ON FISHING RODS AND POLES.—The tax imposed by subparagraph (A) on any fishing rod or pole shall not exceed $10.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 4161(a)(2) is amended by striking ''paragraph (1)'' both places it appears and inserting ''paragraph (1)(A)''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to articles sold by the manufacturer, producer, or importer after September 30, 2004.

SEC. 5415. REDUCTION IN RATE OF TAX ON PORTABLE AERATED BAIT CONTAINERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4161(a)(2)(A) (relating to 3 percent rate of tax for electric outboard motors and sonar devices suitable for finding fish) is amended by inserting ''or a portable aerated bait container'' after ''fish''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading of section 4161(a)(2) is amended by striking ''ELECTRIC OUTBOARD MOTORS AND SONAR DEVICES SUITABLE FOR FINDING FISH'' and inserting ''CERTAIN SPORT FISHING EQUIPMENT''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to articles sold by the manufacturer, producer, or importer after September 30, 2004.

PART III—AERIAL EXCISE TAXES

SEC. 5421. CLARIFICATION OF EXCISE TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR AGRICULTURAL AERIAL APPLICATORS AND EXEMPTION FOR FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT ENGAGED IN FORESTRY OPERATIONS.

(a) NO WAIVER BY FARM OWNER, TENANT, OR OPERATOR NECESSARY.—Subparagraph (B) of section 6420(c)(4) (relating to certain farming use other than by owner, etc.) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) if the person so using the gasoline is an aerial or other applicator of fertilizers or other substances and is the ultimate purchaser of the gasoline, then subparagraph (A) of this paragraph shall not apply and the aerial or other applicator shall be treated as having used such gasoline on a farm for farming purposes.''.

(b) EXEMPTION INCLUDES FUEL USED BETWEEN AIRFIELD AND FARM.—Section 6420(c)(4), as amended by subsection (a), is amended by adding at the end the following new flush sentence:

''For purposes of this paragraph, in the case of an aerial applicator, gasoline shall be treated as used on a farm for farming purposes if the gasoline is used for the direct flight between the airfield and 1 or more farms.''.

(c) EXEMPTION FROM TAX ON AIR TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS FOR FORESTRY PURPOSES EXTENDED TO FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT.—Subsection (f) of section 4261 (relating to tax on air transportation of persons) is amended to read as follows:

''(f) EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN USES.—No tax shall be imposed under subsection (a) or (b) on air transportation—

''(1) by helicopter for the purpose of transporting individuals, equipment, or supplies in the exploration for, or the development or removal of, hard minerals, oil, or gas, or

''(2) by helicopter or by fixed-wing aircraft for the purpose of the planting, cultivation, cutting, or transportation of, or caring for, trees (including logging operations),

but only if the helicopter or fixed-wing aircraft does not take off from, or land at, a facility eligible for assistance under the Airport and Airway Development Act of 1970, or otherwise use services provided pursuant to section 44509 or 44913(b) or subchapter I of chapter 471 of title 49, United States Code, during such use. In the case of helicopter transportation described in paragraph (1), this subsection shall be applied by treating each flight segment as a distinct flight.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel use or air transportation after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5422. MODIFICATION OF RURAL AIRPORT DEFINITION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4261(e)(1)(B) (defining rural airport) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(in the case of any airport described in clause (ii)(III), on flight segments

of at least 100 miles)'' after ''by air'' in clause (i), and

(2) by striking the period at the end of subclause (II) of clause (ii) and inserting '', or'', and by adding at the end of clause (ii) the following new subclause:

''(III) is not connected by paved roads to another airport.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on April 1, 2004.

SEC. 5423. EXEMPTION FROM TICKET TAXES FOR TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED BY SEAPLANES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4261 (relating to imposition of tax) is amended by redesignating subsection (i) as subsection (j) and by inserting after subsection (h) the following new subsection:

''(i) EXEMPTION FOR SEAPLANES.—No tax shall be imposed by this section or section 4271 on any air transportation by a seaplane with respect to any segment consisting of a takeoff from, and a landing on, water, but only if the places at which such takeoff and landing occur have not received and are not receiving financial assistance from the Airport and Airways Trust Fund.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transportation beginning after March 31, 2004.

SEC. 5424. CERTAIN SIGHTSEEING FLIGHTS EXEMPT FROM TAXES ON AIR TRANSPORTATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4281 (relating to small aircraft on nonestablished lines) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''For purposes of this section, an aircraft shall not be considered as operated on an established line if such aircraft is operated on a flight the sole purpose of which is sightseeing.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply with respect to transportation beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, but shall not apply to any amount paid before such date for such transportation.

PART IV—ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE EXCISE TAXES

SEC. 5431. REPEAL OF SPECIAL OCCUPATIONAL TAXES ON PRODUCERS AND MARKETERS OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

(a) REPEAL OF OCCUPATIONAL TAXES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The following provisions of part II of subchapter A of chapter 51 (relating to occupational taxes) are hereby repealed:

(A) Subpart A (relating to proprietors of distilled spirits plants, bonded wine cellars, etc.).

(B) Subpart B (relating to brewer).

(C) Subpart D (relating to wholesale dealers) (other than sections 5114 and 5116).

(D) Subpart E (relating to retail dealers) (other than section 5124).

(E) Subpart G (relating to general provisions) (other than sections 5142, 5143, 5145, and 5146).

(2) NONBEVERAGE DOMESTIC DRAWBACK.—Section 5131 is amended by striking '', on payment of a special tax per annum,''.

(3) INDUSTRIAL USE OF DISTILLED SPIRITS.—Section 5276 is hereby repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1)(A) The heading for part II of subchapter A of chapter 51 and the table of subparts for such part are amended to read as follows:

''PART II—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

''Subpart A. Manufacturers of stills.
''Subpart B. Nonbeverage domestic drawback claimants.
''Subpart C. Recordkeeping by dealers.
''Subpart D. Other provisions.''.

(B) The table of parts for such subchapter A is amended by striking the item relating to part II and inserting the following new item:

''Part II. Miscellaneous provisions.''.

(2) Subpart C of part II of such subchapter (relating to manufacturers of stills) is redesignated as subpart A.

(3)(A) Subpart F of such part II (relating to nonbeverage domestic drawback claimants) is redesignated as subpart B and sections 5131 through 5134 are redesignated as sections 5111 through 5114, respectively.

(B) The table of sections for such subpart B, as so redesignated, is amended—

(i) by redesignating the items relating to sections 5131 through 5134 as relating to sections 5111 through 5114, respectively, and

(ii) by striking ''and rate of tax'' in the item relating to section 5111, as so redesignated.

(C) Section 5111, as redesignated by subparagraph (A), is amended—

(i) by striking ''**AND RATE OF TAX**'' in the section heading,

(ii) by striking the subsection heading for subsection (a), and

(iii) by striking subsection (b).

(4) Part II of subchapter A of chapter 51 is amended by adding after subpart B, as redesignated by paragraph (3), the following new subpart:

''Subpart C—Recordkeeping by Dealers

''Sec. 5121. Recordkeeping by wholesale dealers.
''Sec. 5122. Recordkeeping by retail dealers.
''Sec. 5123. Preservation and inspection of records, and entry of premises for inspection.''.

(5)(A) Section 5114 (relating to records) is moved to subpart C of such part II and inserted after the table of sections for such subpart.

(B) Section 5114 is amended—

(i) by striking the section heading and inserting the following new heading:

''SEC. 5121. RECORDKEEPING BY WHOLESALE DEALERS.'',

and

(ii) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d) and by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

''(c) WHOLESALE DEALERS.—For purposes of this part—

''(1) WHOLESALE DEALER IN LIQUORS.—The term 'wholesale dealer in liquors' means any dealer (other than a wholesale dealer in beer) who sells, or offers for sale, distilled spirits, wines, or beer, to another dealer.

''(2) WHOLESALE DEALER IN BEER.—The term 'wholesale dealer in beer' means any dealer who sells, or offers for sale, beer, but not distilled spirits or wines, to another dealer.

''(3) DEALER.—The term 'dealer' means any person who sells, or offers for sale, any distilled spirits, wines, or beer.

''(4) PRESUMPTION IN CASE OF SALE OF 20 WINE GALLONS OR MORE.—The sale, or offer for sale, of distilled spirits, wines, or beer, in quantities of 20 wine gallons or more to the same person at the same time, shall be presumptive evidence that the person making such sale, or offer for sale, is engaged in or carrying on the business of a wholesale dealer in liquors or a wholesale dealer in beer, as the case may be. Such presumption may be overcome by evidence satisfactorily showing that such sale, or offer for sale, was made to a person other than a dealer.''.

(C) Paragraph (3) of section 5121(d), as so redesignated, is amended by striking ''section 5146'' and inserting ''section 5123''.

(6)(A) Section 5124 (relating to records) is moved to subpart C of part II of subchapter A of chapter 51 and inserted after section 5121.

(B) Section 5124 is amended—

(i) by striking the section heading and inserting the following new heading:

''SEC. 5122. RECORDKEEPING BY RETAIL DEALERS.'',

(ii) by striking ''section 5146'' in subsection (c) and inserting ''section 5123'', and

(iii) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d) and inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

''(c) RETAIL DEALERS.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) RETAIL DEALER IN LIQUORS.—The term 'retail dealer in liquors' means any dealer (other than a retail dealer in beer or a limited retail dealer) who sells, or offers for sale, distilled spirits, wines, or beer, to any person other than a dealer.

''(2) RETAIL DEALER IN BEER.—The term 'retail dealer in beer' means any dealer (other than a limited retail dealer) who sells, or offers for sale, beer, but not distilled spirits or wines, to any person other than a dealer.

''(3) LIMITED RETAIL DEALER.—The term 'limited retail dealer' means any fraternal, civic, church, labor, charitable, benevolent, or ex-servicemen's organization making sales of distilled spirits, wine or beer on the occasion of any kind of entertainment, dance, picnic, bazaar, or festival held by it, or any person making sales of distilled spirits, wine or beer to the members, guests, or patrons of bona fide fairs, reunions, picnics, carnivals, or other similar outings, if such organization or person is not otherwise engaged in business as a dealer.

''(4) DEALER.—The term 'dealer' has the meaning given such term by section 5121(c)(3).''.

(7) Section 5146 is moved to subpart C of part II of subchapter A of chapter 51, inserted after section 5122, and redesignated as section 5123.

(8) Part II of subchapter A of chapter 51 is amended by inserting after subpart C the following new subpart:

''Subpart D—Other Provisions

''Sec. 5131. Packaging distilled spirits for industrial uses.
''Sec. 5132. Prohibited purchases by dealers.''.

(9) Section 5116 is moved to subpart D of part II of subchapter A of chapter 51, inserted after the table of sections, redesignated as section 5131, and amended by inserting ''(as defined in section 5121(c))'' after ''dealer'' in subsection (a).

(10) Subpart D of part II of subchapter A of chapter 51 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

''SEC. 5132. PROHIBITED PURCHASES BY DEALERS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in regulations prescribed by the Secretary, it shall be unlawful for a dealer to purchase distilled spirits for resale from any person other than a wholesale dealer in liquors who is required to keep the records prescribed by section 5121.

''(b) LIMITED RETAIL DEALERS.—A limited retail dealer may lawfully purchase distilled spirits for resale from a retail dealer in liquors.

''(c) PENALTY AND FORFEITURE.—

''For penalty and forfeiture provisions applicable to violations of subsection (a), see sections 5687 and 7302.''.

(11) Subsection (b) of section 5002 is amended—

(A) by striking ''section 5112(a)'' and inserting ''section 5121(c)(3)'',

(B) by striking ''section 5112'' and inserting ''section 5121(c)'',

(C) by striking ''section 5122'' and inserting ''section 5122(c)''.

(12) Subparagraph (A) of section 5010(c)(2) is amended by striking ''section 5134'' and inserting ''section 5114''.

(13) Subsection (d) of section 5052 is amended to read as follows:

''(d) BREWER.—For purposes of this chapter, the term 'brewer' means any person who brews beer or produces beer for sale. Such term shall not include any person who produces only beer exempt from tax under section 5053(e).''.

(14) The text of section 5182 is amended to read as follows:

''For provisions requiring recordkeeping by wholesale liquor dealers, see section 5121, and by retail liquor dealers, see section 5122.''.

(15) Subsection (b) of section 5402 is amended by striking ''section 5092'' and inserting ''section 5052(d)''.

(16) Section 5671 is amended by striking ''or 5091''.

(17)(A) Part V of subchapter J of chapter 51 is hereby repealed.

(B) The table of parts for such subchapter J is amended by striking the item relating to part V.

(18)(A) Sections 5142, 5143, and 5145 are moved to subchapter D of chapter 52, inserted after section 5731, redesignated as sections 5732, 5733, and 5734, respectively, and amended by striking ''this part'' each place it appears and inserting ''this subchapter''.

(B) Section 5732, as redesignated by subparagraph (A), is amended by striking ''(except the tax imposed by section 5131)'' each place it appears.

(C) Paragraph (2) of section 5733(c), as redesignated by subparagraph (A), is amended by striking ''liquors'' both places it appears and inserting ''tobacco products and cigarette papers and tubes''.

(D) The table of sections for subchapter D of chapter 52 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

''Sec. 5732. Payment of tax.
''Sec. 5733. Provisions relating to liability for occupational taxes.
''Sec. 5734. Application of State laws.''.

(E) Section 5731 is amended by striking subsection (c) and by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (c).

(19) Subsection (c) of section 6071 is amended by striking ''section 5142'' and inserting ''section 5732''.

(20) Paragraph (1) of section 7652(g) is amended—

(A) by striking ''subpart F'' and inserting ''subpart B'', and

(B) by striking ''section 5131(a)'' and inserting ''section 5111''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on July 1, 2004, but shall not apply to taxes imposed for periods before such date.

SEC. 5432. SUSPENSION OF LIMITATION ON RATE OF RUM EXCISE TAX COVER OVER TO PUERTO RICO AND VIRGIN ISLANDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7652(f)(1) (relating to limitation on cover over of tax on distilled spirits) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2004'' and inserting ''October 1, 2004, and $13.50 in the case of distilled spirits brought into the United States after September 30, 2004, and before January 1, 2006''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to articles containing distilled spirits brought into the United States after December 31, 2003.

(2) SPECIAL RULE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—After September 30, 2004, the treasury of Puerto Rico shall make a Conservation Trust Fund transfer within 30 days from the date of each cover over payment to such treasury under section 7652(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(B) CONSERVATION TRUST FUND TRANSFER.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ''Conservation Trust Fund transfer'' means a transfer to the Puerto Rico Conservation Trust Fund of an amount equal to 50 cents per proof gallon of the taxes imposed under section 5001 or section 7652 of such Code on distilled spirits that are covered over to the treasury of Puerto Rico under section 7652(e) of such Code.

(ii) TREATMENT OF TRANSFER.—Each Conservation Trust Fund transfer shall be treated as principal for an endowment, the income from which to be available for use by the Puerto Rico Conservation Trust Fund for the purposes for which the Trust Fund was established.

(iii) RESULT OF NONTRANSFER.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—Upon notification by the Secretary of the Interior that a Conservation Trust Fund transfer has not been made by the treasury of Puerto Rico, the Secretary of the Treasury shall, except as provided in subclause (II), deduct and withhold from the next cover over payment to be made to the treasury of Puerto Rico under section 7652(e) of such Code an amount equal to the appropriate Conservation Trust Fund transfer and interest thereon at the underpayment rate established under section 6621 of such Code as of the due date of such transfer. The Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer such amount deducted and withheld, and the interest thereon, directly to the Puerto Rico Conservation Trust Fund.

(II) GOOD CAUSE EXCEPTION.—If the Secretary of the Interior finds, after consultation with the Governor of Puerto Rico, that the failure by the treasury of Puerto Rico to make a required transfer was for good cause, and notifies the Secretary of the Treasury of the finding of such good cause before the due date of the next cover over payment following the notification of nontransfer, then the Secretary of the Treasury shall not deduct the amount of such nontransfer from any cover over payment.

(C) PUERTO RICO CONSERVATION TRUST FUND.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ''Puerto Rico Conservation Trust Fund'' means the fund established pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding between the United States Department of the Interior and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, dated December 24, 1968.

PART V—SPORT EXCISE TAXES

SEC. 5441. CUSTOM GUNSMITHS.

(a) SMALL MANUFACTURERS EXEMPT FROM FIREARMS EXCISE TAX.—Section 4182 (relating to exemptions) is amended by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d) and by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

''(c) SMALL MANUFACTURERS, ETC.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The tax imposed by section 4181 shall not apply to any article described in such section if manufactured, produced, or imported by a person who manufactures, produces, and imports less than 50 of such articles during the calendar year.

''(2) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—All persons treated as a single employer for purposes of subsection (a) or (b) of section 52 shall be treated as one person for purposes of paragraph (1).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to articles sold by the manufacturer, producer, or importer on or after the date which is the first day of the month beginning at least 2 weeks after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) NO INFERENCE.—Nothing in the amendments made by this section shall be construed to create any inference with respect to the proper tax treatment of any sales before the effective date of such amendments.

SEC. 5442. MODIFIED TAXATION OF IMPORTED ARCHERY PRODUCTS.

(a) BOWS.—Paragraph (1) of section 4161(b) (relating to bows) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) BOWS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby imposed on the sale by the manufacturer, producer, or importer of any bow which has a peak draw weight of 30 pounds or more, a tax equal to 11 percent of the price for which so sold.

''(B) ARCHERY EQUIPMENT.—There is hereby imposed on the sale by the manufacturer, producer, or importer—

''(i) of any part or accessory suitable for inclusion in or attachment to a bow described in subparagraph (A), and

''(ii) of any quiver or broadhead suitable for use with an arrow described in paragraph (2),

a tax equal to 11 percent of the price for which so sold.''.

(b) ARROWS.—Subsection (b) of section 4161 (relating to bows and arrows, etc.) is amended by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4) and inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) ARROWS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—There is hereby imposed on the sale by the manufacturer, producer, or importer of any arrow, a tax equal to 12 percent of the price for which so sold.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—In the case of any arrow of which the shaft or any other component has been previously taxed under paragraph (1) or (2)—

''(i) section 6416(b)(3) shall not apply, and

''(ii) the tax imposed by subparagraph (A) shall be an amount equal to the excess (if any) of—

''(I) the amount of tax imposed by this paragraph (determined without regard to this subparagraph), over

''(II) the amount of tax paid with respect to the tax imposed under paragraph (1) or (2) on such shaft or component.

''(C) ARROW.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'arrow' means any shaft described in paragraph (2) to which additional components are attached.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 4161(b)(2) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(other than broadheads)'' after ''point'', and

(2) by striking ''ARROWS.—'' in the heading and inserting ''ARROW COMPONENTS.—''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to articles sold by the manufacturer, producer, or importer after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5443. TREATMENT OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS FOR PURPOSES OF FEDERAL WAGERING EXCISE AND OCCUPATIONAL TAXES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 7871 (relating to Indian tribal governments treated as States for certain purposes) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (7) and inserting ''; and'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) for purposes of chapter 35 (relating to taxes on wagering).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on July 1, 2004, but shall not apply to taxes imposed for periods before such date.

PART VI—OTHER PROVISIONS

SEC. 5451. INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR DISTILLED SPIRITS WHOLESALERS AND FOR DISTILLED SPIRITS IN CONTROL STATE BAILMENT WAREHOUSES FOR COSTS OF CARRYING FEDERAL EXCISE TAXES ON BOTTLED DISTILLED SPIRITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part I of subchapter A of chapter 51 (relating to gallonage and occupational taxes) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 5011. INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR AVERAGE COST OF CARRYING EXCISE TAX.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 38, the amount of the distilled spirits credit for any taxable year is the amount equal to the product of—

''(1) in the case of—

''(A) any eligible wholesaler—

''(i) the number of cases of bottled distilled spirits—

''(I) which were bottled in the United States, and

''(II) which are purchased by such wholesaler during the taxable year directly from the bottler of such spirits, or

''(B) any person which is subject to section 5005 and which is not an eligible wholesaler, the number of cases of bottled distilled spirits which are stored in a warehouse operated by, or on behalf of, a State, or agency or political subdivision thereof, on which title has not passed on an unconditional sale basis, and

''(2) the average tax-financing cost per case for the most recent calendar year ending before the beginning of such taxable year.

''(b) ELIGIBLE WHOLESALER.—For purposes of this section, the term 'eligible wholesaler' means any person which holds a permit under the Federal Alcohol Administration Act as a wholesaler of distilled spirits which is not a State, or agency or political subdivision thereof.

''(c) AVERAGE TAX-FINANCING COST.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, the average tax-financing cost per case for any calendar year is the amount of interest which would accrue at the deemed financing rate during a 60-day period on an amount equal to the deemed Federal excise tax per case.

''(2) DEEMED FINANCING RATE.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the deemed financing rate for any calendar year is the average of the corporate overpayment rates under paragraph (1) of section 6621(a) (determined without regard to the last sentence of such paragraph) for calendar quarters of such year.

''(3) DEEMED FEDERAL EXCISE TAX PER CASE.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the deemed Federal excise tax per case is $25.68.

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

''(1) CASE.—The term 'case' means 12 80-proof 750 milliliter bottles.

''(2) NUMBER OF CASES IN LOT.—The number of cases in any lot of distilled spirits shall be determined by dividing the number of liters in such lot by 9.''.

(b) CREDIT TREATED AS PART OF GENERAL BUSINESS CREDIT.—Section 38(b) (relating to current year business credit), as amended by section 5103 of this Act, is amended by striking ''plus'' at the end of paragraph (15), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (16) and inserting '', plus'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(17) the distilled spirits credit determined under section 5011(a).''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 39(d), as amended by section 5103 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(12) NO CARRYBACK OF SECTION 5011 CREDIT BEFORE EFFECTIVE DATE.—No portion of the unused business credit for any taxable year which is attributable to the credit determined under section 5011(a) may be carried back to a taxable year beginning before the date of the enactment of section 5011.''.

(2) The table of sections for subpart A of part I of subchapter A of chapter 51 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 5011. Income tax credit for average cost of carrying excise tax.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5452. CREDIT FOR TAXPAYERS OWNING COMMERCIAL POWER TAKEOFF VEHICLES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 (relating to business-related credits) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 45G. COMMERCIAL POWER TAKEOFF VEHICLES CREDIT.

''(a) GENERAL RULE.—For purposes of section 38, the amount of the commercial power takeoff vehicles credit determined under this section for the taxable year is $250 for each qualified commercial power takeoff vehicle owned by the taxpayer as of the close of the calendar year in which or with which the taxable year of the taxpayer ends.

''(b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) QUALIFIED COMMERCIAL POWER TAKEOFF VEHICLE.—The term 'qualified commercial power takeoff vehicle' means any highway vehicle described in paragraph (2) which is propelled by any fuel subject to tax under section 4041 or 4081 if such vehicle is used in a trade or business or for the production of income (and is licensed and insured for such use).

''(2) HIGHWAY VEHICLE DESCRIBED.—A highway vehicle is described in this paragraph if such vehicle is—

''(A) designed to engage in the daily collection of refuse or recyclables from homes or businesses and is equipped with a mechanism under which the vehicle's propulsion engine provides the power to operate a load compactor, or

''(B) designed to deliver ready mixed concrete on a daily basis and is equipped with a mechanism under which the vehicle's propulsion engine provides the power to operate a mixer drum to agitate and mix the product en route to the delivery site.

''(c) EXCEPTION FOR VEHICLES USED BY GOVERNMENTS, ETC.—No credit shall be allowed under this section for any vehicle owned by any person at the close of a calendar year if such vehicle is used at any time during such year by—

''(1) the United States or an agency or instrumentality thereof, a State, a political subdivision of a State, or an agency or instrumentality of one or more States or political subdivisions, or

''(2) an organization exempt from tax under section 501(a).

''(d) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply with respect to any calendar year after 2006.''.

(b) CREDIT TREATED AS PART OF GENERAL BUSINESS CREDIT.—Section 38(b) (relating to current year business credit), as amended by section 5451 of this Act, is amended by striking ''plus'' at the end of paragraph (16), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (17) and inserting '', plus'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(18) the commercial power takeoff vehicles credit under section 45G(a).''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 39(d), as amended by section 5451 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(13) NO CARRYBACK OF SECTION 45G CREDIT BEFORE EFFECTIVE DATE.—No portion of the unused business credit for any taxable year which is attributable to the credit determined under section 45G(a) may be carried back to a taxable year beginning on or before the date of the enactment of section 45G.''.

(2) The table of sections for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 45G. Commercial power takeoff vehicles credit.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5453. CREDIT FOR AUXILIARY POWER UNITS INSTALLED ON DIESEL-POWERED TRUCKS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 (relating to business-related credits), as amended by section 5452 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 45H. AUXILIARY POWER UNIT CREDIT.

''(a) GENERAL RULE.—For purposes of section 38, the amount of the auxiliary power unit credit determined under this section for the taxable year is $250 for each qualified auxiliary power unit—

''(1) purchased by the taxpayer, and

''(2) installed or caused to be installed by the taxpayer on a qualified heavy-duty highway vehicle during such taxable year.

''(b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) QUALIFIED AUXILIARY POWER UNIT.—The term 'qualified auxiliary power unit' means any integrated system which—

''(A) provides heat, air conditioning, engine warming, and electricity to the factory installed components on a qualified heavy-duty highway vehicle as if the main drive engine of such vehicle was in operation,

''(B) is employed to reduce long-term idling of the diesel engine on such a vehicle, and

''(C) is certified by the Environmental Protection Agency as meeting emission standards in regulations in effect on the date of the enactment of this section.

''(2) QUALIFIED HEAVY-DUTY HIGHWAY VEHICLE.—The term 'qualified heavy-duty highway vehicle' means any highway vehicle weighing more than 12,500 pounds and powered by a diesel engine.

''(c) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply with respect to any installation occurring after December 31, 2006.''.

(b) CREDIT TREATED AS PART OF GENERAL BUSINESS CREDIT.—Section 38(b) (relating to current year business credit), as amended by section 5452 of this Act, is amended by striking ''plus'' at the end of paragraph (17), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (18) and inserting '', plus'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(19) the auxiliary power unit credit under section 45H(a).''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 39(d), as amended by section 5452 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(14) NO CARRYBACK OF SECTION 45H CREDIT BEFORE EFFECTIVE DATE.—No portion of the unused business credit for any taxable year which is attributable to the credit determined under section 45H(a) may be carried back to a taxable year beginning on or before the date of the enactment of section 45H.''.

(2) The table of sections for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, as amended by section 5452 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 45H. Auxiliary power unit credit.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to auxiliary power units purchased and installed for taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle F—Miscellaneous Provisions

SEC. 5501. MOTOR FUEL TAX ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Motor Fuel Tax Enforcement Advisory Commission (in this section referred to as the ''Commission'').

(b) FUNCTION.—The Commission shall—

(1) review motor fuel revenue collections, historical and current;

(2) review the progress of investigations;

(3) develop and review legislative proposals with respect to motor fuel taxes;

(4) monitor the progress of administrative regulation projects relating to motor fuel taxes;

(5) review the results of Federal and State agency cooperative efforts regarding motor fuel taxes;

(6) review the results of Federal interagency cooperative efforts regarding motor fuel taxes; and

(7) evaluate and make recommendations regarding—

(A) the effectiveness of existing Federal enforcement programs regarding motor fuel taxes,

(B) enforcement personnel allocation, and

(C) proposals for regulatory projects, legislation, and funding.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—The Commission shall be composed of the following representatives appointed by the Chairmen and the Ranking Members of the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives:

(A) At least 1 representative from each of the following Federal entities: the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Transportation—Office of Inspector General, the Federal Highway Administration, the Department of Defense, and the Department of Justice.

(B) At least 1 representative from the Federation of State Tax Administrators.

(C) At least 1 representative from any State department of transportation.

(D) 2 representatives from the highway construction industry.

(E) 5 representatives from industries relating to fuel distribution — refiners (2 representatives), distributors (1 representative), pipelines

(1 representative), and terminal operators (2 representatives).

(F) 1 representative from the retail fuel industry.

(G) 2 representatives from the staff of the Committee on Finance of the Senate and 2 representatives from the staff of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

(2) TERMS.—Members shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(3) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

(4) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Members shall serve without pay but shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(5) CHAIRMAN.—The Chairman of the Commission shall be elected by the members.

(d) FUNDING.—Such sums as are necessary shall be available from the Highway Trust fund for the expenses of the Commission.

(e) CONSULTATION.—Upon request of the Commission, representatives of the Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service shall be available for consultation to assist the Commission in carrying out its duties under this section.

(f) OBTAINING DATA.—The Commission may secure directly from any department or agency of the United States, information (other than information required by any law to be kept confidential by such department or agency) necessary for the Commission to carry out its duties under this section. Upon request of the Commission, the head of that department or agency shall furnish such nonconfidential information to the Commission. The Commission shall also gather evidence through such means as it may deem appropriate, including through holding hearings and soliciting comments by means of Federal Register notices.

(g) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate after September 30, 2009.

SEC. 5502. NATIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING COMMISSION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a National Surface Transportation Infrastructure Financing Commission (in this section referred to as the ''Commission''). The Commission shall hold its first meeting within 90 days of the appointment of the eighth individual to be named to the Commission.

(b) FUNCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall—

(A) make a thorough investigation and study of revenues flowing into the Highway Trust Fund under current law, including the individual components of the overall flow of such revenues;

(B) consider whether the amount of such revenues is likely to increase, decline, or remain unchanged, absent changes in the law, particularly by taking into account the impact of possible changes in public vehicular choice, fuel use, or travel alternatives that could be expected to reduce or increase revenues into the Highway Trust Fund;

(C) consider alternative approaches to generating revenues for the Highway Trust Fund, and the level of revenues that such alternatives would yield;

(D) consider highway and transit needs and whether additional revenues into the Highway Trust Fund, or other Federal revenues dedicated to highway and transit infrastructure, would be required in order to meet such needs; and

(E) study such other matters closely related to the subjects described in the preceding subparagraphs as it may deem appropriate.

(2) TIME FRAME OF INVESTIGATION AND STUDY.—The time frame to be considered by the Commission shall extend through the year 2015.

(3) PREPARATION OF REPORT.—Based on such investigation and study, the Commission shall develop a final report, with recommendations and the bases for those recommendations, indicating policies that should be adopted, or not adopted, to achieve various levels of annual revenue for the Highway Trust Fund and to enable the Highway Trust Fund to receive revenues sufficient to meet highway and transit needs. Such recommendations shall address, among other matters as the Commission may deem appropriate—

(A) what levels of revenue are required by the Federal Highway Trust Fund in order for it to meet needs to—

(i) maintain, and

(ii) improve the condition and performance of the Nation's highway and transit systems;

(B) what levels of revenue are required by the Federal Highway Trust Fund in order to ensure that Federal levels of investment in highways and transit do not decline in real terms; and

(C) the extent, if any, to which the Highway Trust Fund should be augmented by other mechanisms or funds as a Federal means of financing highway and transit infrastructure investments.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—The Commission shall be composed of 15 members, appointed as follows:

(A) 7 members appointed by the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury.

(B) 2 members appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

(C) 2 members appointed by the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

(D) 2 members appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on Finance of the Senate.

(E) 2 members appointed by the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Finance of the Senate.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—Members appointed pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be appointed from among individuals knowledgeable in the fields of public transportation finance or highway and transit programs, policy, and needs, and may include representatives of interested parties, such as State and local governments or other public transportation authorities or agencies, representatives of the transportation construction industry (including suppliers of technology, machinery and materials), transportation labor (including construction and providers), transportation providers, the financial community, and users of highway and transit systems.

(3) TERMS.—Members shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(4) VACANCIES.—A vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

(5) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Members shall serve without pay but shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(6) CHAIRMAN.—The Chairman of the Commission shall be elected by the members.

(d) STAFF.—The Commission may appoint and fix the pay of such personnel as it considers appropriate.

(e) FUNDING.—Funding for the Commission shall be provided by the Secretary of the Treasury and by the Secretary of Transportation, out of funds available to those agencies for administrative and policy functions.

(f) STAFF OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Upon request of the Commission, the head of any department or agency of the United States may detail any of the personnel of that department or agency to the Commission to assist in carrying out its duties under this section.

(g) OBTAINING DATA.—The Commission may secure directly from any department or agency of the United States, information (other than information required by any law to be kept confidential by such department or agency) necessary for the Commission to carry out its duties under this section. Upon request of the Commission, the head of that department or agency shall furnish such nonconfidential information to the Commission. The Commission shall also gather evidence through such means as it may deem appropriate, including through holding hearings and soliciting comments by means of Federal Register notices.

(h) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of its first meeting, the Commission shall transmit its final report, including recommendations, to the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Finance of the Senate, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(i) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate on the 180th day following the date of transmittal of the report under subsection (h). All records and papers of the Commission shall thereupon be delivered to the Administrator of General Services for deposit in the National Archives.

SEC. 5503. TREASURY STUDY OF FUEL TAX COMPLIANCE AND INTERAGENCY COOPERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 31, 2006, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives a report regarding fuel tax enforcement which shall include the information and analysis specified in subsections (b) and (c) and any other information and recommendations the Secretary of the Treasury may deem appropriate.

(b) AUDITS.—With respect to audits conducted by the Internal Revenue Service, the report required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) the number and geographic distribution of audits conducted annually, by fiscal year, between October 1, 2001, and September 30, 2005;

(2) the total volume involved for each of the taxable fuels covered by such audits and a comparison to the annual production of such fuels;

(3) the staff hours and number of personnel devoted to the audits per year; and

(4) the results of such audits by year, including total tax collected, total penalties collected, and number of referrals for criminal prosecution.

(c) ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.—With respect to enforcement activities, the report required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) the number and geographic distribution of criminal investigations and prosecutions annually, by fiscal year, between October 1, 2001, and September 30, 2005, and the results of such investigations and prosecutions;

(2) to the extent such investigations and prosecutions involved other agencies, State or Federal, a breakdown by agency of the number of joint investigations involved;

(3) an assessment of the effectiveness of joint action and cooperation between the Department of the Treasury and other Federal and State agencies, including a discussion of the ability and need to share information across agencies for both civil and criminal Federal tax enforcement and enforcement of State or Federal laws relating to fuels;

(4) the staff hours and number of personnel devoted to criminal investigations and prosecutions per year;

(5) the staff hours and number of personnel devoted to administrative collection of fuel taxes; and

(6) the results of administrative collection efforts annually, by fiscal year, between October 1, 2001, and September 30, 2005.

SEC. 5504. EXPANSION OF HIGHWAY TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE PURPOSES TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR STUDIES OF SUPPLEMENTAL OR ALTERNATIVE FINANCING FOR THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—From amounts available in the Highway Trust Fund, there is authorized to be expended for 2 comprehensive studies of supplemental or alternative funding sources for the Highway Trust Fund—

(1) $1,000,000 to the Western Transportation Institute of the College of Engineering at Montana State University for the study and report described in subsection (b), and

(2) $16,500,000 to the Public Policy Center of the University of Iowa for the study and report described in subsection (c).

(b) STUDY OF FUNDING MECHANISMS.—Not later than December 31, 2006, the Western Transportation Institute of the College of Engineering at Montana State University shall report to the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Transportation on a study of highway funding mechanisms of other industrialized nations, an examination of the viability of alternative funding proposals, including congestion pricing, greater reliance on tolls, privatization of facilities, and bonding for construction of added capacity, and an examination of increasing the rates of motor fuels taxes in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act, including the indexation of such rates.

(c) STUDY ON FIELD TEST OF ON-BOARD COMPUTER ASSESSMENT OF HIGHWAY USE TAXES.—Not later than December 31, 2011, the Public Policy Center of the University of Iowa shall direct, analyze, and report to the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Transportation on a long-term field test of an approach to assessing highway use taxes based upon actual mileage driven by a specific vehicle on specific types of highways by use of an on-board computer—

(1) which is linked to satellites to calculate highway mileage traversed,

(2) which computes the appropriate highway use tax for each of the Federal, State, and local governments as the vehicle makes use of the highways, and

(3) the data from which is periodically downloaded by the vehicle owner to a collection center for an assessment of highway use taxes due in each jurisdiction traversed.The components of the field test shall include 2 years for preparation, including selection of vendors and test participants, and 3-year testing period.

SEC. 5505. TREASURY STUDY OF HIGHWAY FUELS USED BY TRUCKS FOR NON-TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall conduct a study regarding the use of highway motor fuel by trucks that is not used for the propulsion of the vehicle. As part of such study—

(1) in the case of vehicles carrying equipment that is unrelated to the transportation function of the vehicle—

(A) the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, and with public notice and comment, shall determine the average annual amount of tax paid fuel consumed per vehicle, by type of vehicle, used by the propulsion engine to provide the power to operate the equipment attached to the highway vehicle, and

(B) the Secretary of the Treasury shall review the technical and administrative feasibility of exempting such nonpropulsive use of highway fuels for the highway motor fuels excise taxes,

(2) in the case where non-transportation equipment is run by a separate motor—

(A) the Secretary of the Treasury shall determine the annual average amount of fuel exempted from tax in the use of such equipment by equipment type, and

(B) the Secretary of the Treasury shall review issues of administration and compliance related to the present-law exemption provided for such fuel use, and

(3) the Secretary of the Treasury shall—

(A) estimate the amount of taxable fuel consumed by trucks and the emissions of various pollutants due to the long-term idling of diesel engines, and

(B) determine the cost of reducing such long-term idling through the use of plug-ins at truck stops, auxiliary power units, or other technologies.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than January 1, 2006, the Secretary of the Treasury shall report the findings of the study required under subsection (a) to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 5506. DELTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN.

(a) STUDY.—The Delta Regional Authority shall conduct a study of the transportation assets and needs in the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee which comprise the Delta region.

(b) REGIONAL STRATEGIC TRANSPORTATION PLAN.—Upon completion of the study required under subsection (a), the Delta Regional Authority shall establish a regional strategic transportation plan to achieve efficient transportation systems in the Delta region. In developing the regional strategic transportation plan, the Delta Regional Authority shall consult with local planning and development districts, local and regional governments, metropolitan planning organizations, State transportation entities, and Federal transportation agencies.

(c) ELEMENTS OF STUDY AND PLAN.—The study and plan under this section shall include the following transportation modes and systems: transit, rail, highway, interstate, bridges, air, airports, waterways and ports.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Delta Regional Authority $1,000,000 to carry out the purposes of this section, to remain available until expended.

SEC. 5507. TREATMENT OF EMPLOYER-PROVIDED TRANSIT AND VAN POOLING BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 132(f)(2) (relating to limitation on exclusion) is amended by striking ''$100'' and inserting ''$120''.

(b) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The last sentence of section 132(f)(6)(A) (relating to inflation adjustment) is amended—

(1) by striking ''2002'' and inserting ''2005'', and

(2) by striking ''2001'' and inserting ''2004''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2004.

SEC. 5508. STUDY OF INCENTIVES FOR PRODUCTION OF BIODIESEL.

(a) STUDY.—The General Comptroller of the United States shall conduct a study related to biodiesel fuels and the tax credit for biodiesel fuels established under this Act. Such study shall include—

(1) an assessment on whether such credit provides sufficient assistance to the producers of biodiesel fuel to establish the fuel as a viable energy alternative in the current market place,

(2) an assessment on how long such credit or similar subsidy would have to remain in effect before biodiesel fuel can compete in the market place without such assistance,

(3) a cost-benefit analysis of such credit, comparing the cost of the credit in forgone revenue to the benefits of lower fuel costs for consumers, increased profitability for the biodiesel industry, increased farm income, reduced program outlays from the Department of Agriculture, and the improved environmental conditions through the use of biodiesel fuel, and

(4) an assessment on whether such credit results in any unintended consequences for unrelated industries, including the impact, if any, on the glycerin market.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall report the findings of the study required under subsection (a) to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

Subtitle G—Revenue Offsets

PART I—LIMITATION ON EXPENSING CERTAIN PASSENGER AUTOMOBILES

SEC. 5601. EXPANSION OF LIMITATION ON DEPRECIATION OF CERTAIN PASSENGER AUTOMOBILES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 179(b) (relating to limitations) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) LIMITATION ON COST TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT FOR CERTAIN PASSENGER VEHICLES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The cost of any sport utility vehicle for any taxable year which may be taken into account under this section shall not exceed $25,000.

''(B) SPORT UTILITY VEHICLE.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'sport utility vehicle' means any 4-wheeled vehicle which—

''(I) is manufactured primarily for use on public streets, roads, and highways,

''(II) is not subject to section 280F, and

''(III) is rated at not more than 14,000 pounds gross vehicle weight.

''(ii) CERTAIN VEHICLES EXCLUDED.—Such term does not include any vehicle which—

''(I) does not have the primary load carrying device or container attached,

''(II) has a seating capacity of more than 12 individuals,

''(III) is designed for more than 9 individuals in seating rearward of the driver's seat,

''(IV) is equipped with an open cargo area, or a covered box not readily accessible from the passenger compartment, of at least 72.0 inches in interior length, or

''(V) has an integral enclosure, fully enclosing the driver compartment and load carrying device, does not have seating rearward of the driver's seat, and has no body section protruding more than 30 inches ahead of the leading edge of the windshield.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after February 2, 2004.

PART II—PROVISIONS DESIGNED TO CURTAIL TAX SHELTERS

SEC. 5611. CLARIFICATION OF ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE DOCTRINE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7701 is amended by redesignating subsection (n) as subsection (o) and by inserting after subsection (m) the following new subsection:

''(n) CLARIFICATION OF ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE DOCTRINE; ETC.—

''(1) GENERAL RULES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which a court determines that the economic substance doctrine is relevant for purposes of this title to a transaction (or series of transactions), such transaction (or series of transactions) shall have economic substance only if the requirements of this paragraph are met.

''(B) DEFINITION OF ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—A transaction has economic substance only if—

''(I) the transaction changes in a meaningful way (apart from Federal tax effects) the taxpayer's economic position, and

''(II) the taxpayer has a substantial nontax purpose for entering into such transaction and the transaction is a reasonable means of accomplishing such purpose.

In applying subclause (II), a purpose of achieving a financial accounting benefit shall not be

taken into account in determining whether a transaction has a substantial nontax purpose if the origin of such financial accounting benefit is a reduction of income tax.

''(ii) SPECIAL RULE WHERE TAXPAYER RELIES ON PROFIT POTENTIAL.—A transaction shall not be treated as having economic substance by reason of having a potential for profit unless—

''(I) the present value of the reasonably expected pre-tax profit from the transaction is substantial in relation to the present value of the expected net tax benefits that would be allowed if the transaction were respected, and

''(II) the reasonably expected pre-tax profit from the transaction exceeds a risk-free rate of return.

''(C) TREATMENT OF FEES AND FOREIGN TAXES.—Fees and other transaction expenses and foreign taxes shall be taken into account as expenses in determining pre-tax profit under subparagraph (B)(ii).

''(2) SPECIAL RULES FOR TRANSACTIONS WITH TAX-INDIFFERENT PARTIES.—

''(A) SPECIAL RULES FOR FINANCING TRANSACTIONS.—The form of a transaction which is in substance the borrowing of money or the acquisition of financial capital directly or indirectly from a tax-indifferent party shall not be respected if the present value of the deductions to be claimed with respect to the transaction is substantially in excess of the present value of the anticipated economic returns of the person lending the money or providing the financial capital. A public offering shall be treated as a borrowing, or an acquisition of financial capital, from a tax-indifferent party if it is reasonably expected that at least 50 percent of the offering will be placed with tax-indifferent parties.

''(B) ARTIFICIAL INCOME SHIFTING AND BASIS ADJUSTMENTS.—The form of a transaction with a tax-indifferent party shall not be respected if—

''(i) it results in an allocation of income or gain to the tax-indifferent party in excess of such party's economic income or gain, or

''(ii) it results in a basis adjustment or shifting of basis on account of overstating the income or gain of the tax-indifferent party.

''(3) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE DOCTRINE.—The term 'economic substance doctrine' means the common law doctrine under which tax benefits under subtitle A with respect to a transaction are not allowable if the transaction does not have economic substance or lacks a business purpose.

''(B) TAX-INDIFFERENT PARTY.—The term 'tax-indifferent party' means any person or entity not subject to tax imposed by subtitle A. A person shall be treated as a tax-indifferent party with respect to a transaction if the items taken into account with respect to the transaction have no substantial impact on such person's liability under subtitle A.

''(C) EXCEPTION FOR PERSONAL TRANSACTIONS OF INDIVIDUALS.—In the case of an individual, this subsection shall apply only to transactions entered into in connection with a trade or business or an activity engaged in for the production of income.

''(D) TREATMENT OF LESSORS.—In applying paragraph (1)(B)(ii) to the lessor of tangible property subject to a lease—

''(i) the expected net tax benefits with respect to the leased property shall not include the benefits of—

''(I) depreciation,

''(II) any tax credit, or

''(III) any other deduction as provided in guidance by the Secretary, and

''(ii) subclause (II) of paragraph (1)(B)(ii) shall be disregarded in determining whether any of such benefits are allowable.

''(4) OTHER COMMON LAW DOCTRINES NOT AFFECTED.—Except as specifically provided in this subsection, the provisions of this subsection shall not be construed as altering or supplanting any other rule of law, and the requirements of this subsection shall be construed as being in addition to any such other rule of law.

''(5) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this subsection. Such regulations may include exemptions from the application of this subsection.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transactions entered into after February 2, 2004.

SEC. 5612. PENALTY FOR FAILING TO DISCLOSE REPORTABLE TRANSACTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 (relating to assessable penalties) is amended by inserting after section 6707 the following new section:

''SEC. 6707A. PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO INCLUDE REPORTABLE TRANSACTION INFORMATION WITH RETURN OR STATEMENT.

''(a) IMPOSITION OF PENALTY.—Any person who fails to include on any return or statement any information with respect to a reportable transaction which is required under section 6011 to be included with such return or statement shall pay a penalty in the amount determined under subsection (b).

''(b) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), the amount of the penalty under subsection (a) shall be $50,000.

''(2) LISTED TRANSACTION.—The amount of the penalty under subsection (a) with respect to a listed transaction shall be $100,000.

''(3) INCREASE IN PENALTY FOR LARGE ENTITIES AND HIGH NET WORTH INDIVIDUALS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a failure under subsection (a) by—

''(i) a large entity, or

''(ii) a high net worth individual,

the penalty under paragraph (1) or (2) shall be twice the amount determined without regard to this paragraph.

''(B) LARGE ENTITY.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term 'large entity' means, with respect to any taxable year, a person (other than a natural person) with gross receipts in excess of $10,000,000 for the taxable year in which the reportable transaction occurs or the preceding taxable year. Rules similar to the rules of paragraph (2) and subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D) of paragraph (3) of section 448(c) shall apply for purposes of this subparagraph.

''(C) HIGH NET WORTH INDIVIDUAL.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term 'high net worth individual' means, with respect to a reportable transaction, a natural person whose net worth exceeds $2,000,000 immediately before the transaction.

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

''(1) REPORTABLE TRANSACTION.—The term 'reportable transaction' means any transaction with respect to which information is required to be included with a return or statement because, as determined under regulations prescribed under section 6011, such transaction is of a type which the Secretary determines as having a potential for tax avoidance or evasion.

''(2) LISTED TRANSACTION.—Except as provided in regulations, the term 'listed transaction' means a reportable transaction which is the same as, or substantially similar to, a transaction specifically identified by the Secretary as a tax avoidance transaction for purposes of section 6011.

''(d) AUTHORITY TO RESCIND PENALTY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue may rescind all or any portion of any penalty imposed by this section with respect to any violation if—

''(A) the violation is with respect to a reportable transaction other than a listed transaction,

''(B) the person on whom the penalty is imposed has a history of complying with the requirements of this title,

''(C) it is shown that the violation is due to an unintentional mistake of fact;

''(D) imposing the penalty would be against equity and good conscience, and

''(E) rescinding the penalty would promote compliance with the requirements of this title and effective tax administration.

''(2) DISCRETION.—The exercise of authority under paragraph (1) shall be at the sole discretion of the Commissioner and may be delegated only to the head of the Office of Tax Shelter Analysis. The Commissioner, in the Commissioner's sole discretion, may establish a procedure to determine if a penalty should be referred to the Commissioner or the head of such Office for a determination under paragraph (1).

''(3) NO APPEAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any determination under this subsection may not be reviewed in any administrative or judicial proceeding.

''(4) RECORDS.—If a penalty is rescinded under paragraph (1), the Commissioner shall place in the file in the Office of the Commissioner the opinion of the Commissioner or the head of the Office of Tax Shelter Analysis with respect to the determination, including—

''(A) the facts and circumstances of the transaction,

''(B) the reasons for the rescission, and

''(C) the amount of the penalty rescinded.

''(5) REPORT.—The Commissioner shall each year report to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate—

''(A) a summary of the total number and aggregate amount of penalties imposed, and rescinded, under this section, and

''(B) a description of each penalty rescinded under this subsection and the reasons therefor.

''(e) PENALTY REPORTED TO SEC.—In the case of a person—

''(1) which is required to file periodic reports under section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or is required to be consolidated with another person for purposes of such reports, and

''(2) which—

''(A) is required to pay a penalty under this section with respect to a listed transaction,

''(B) is required to pay a penalty under section 6662A with respect to any reportable transaction at a rate prescribed under section 6662A(c), or

''(C) is required to pay a penalty under section 6662B with respect to any noneconomic substance transaction,

the requirement to pay such penalty shall be disclosed in such reports filed by such person for such periods as the Secretary shall specify. Failure to make a disclosure in accordance with the preceding sentence shall be treated as a failure to which the penalty under subsection (b)(2) applies.

''(f) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PENALTIES.—The penalty imposed by this section is in addition to any penalty imposed under this title.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 6707 the following:

''Sec. 6707A. Penalty for failure to include reportable transaction information with return or statement.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to returns and statements the due date for which is after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5613. ACCURACY-RELATED PENALTY FOR LISTED TRANSACTIONS AND OTHER REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS HAVING A SIGNIFICANT TAX AVOIDANCE PURPOSE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter A of chapter 68 is amended by inserting after section 6662 the following new section:

''SEC. 6662A. IMPOSITION OF ACCURACY-RELATED PENALTY ON UNDERSTATEMENTS WITH RESPECT TO REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS.

''(a) IMPOSITION OF PENALTY.—If a taxpayer has a reportable transaction understatement for any taxable year, there shall be added to the tax an amount equal to 20 percent of the amount of such understatement.

''(b) REPORTABLE TRANSACTION UNDERSTATEMENT.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'reportable transaction understatement' means the sum of—

''(A) the product of—

''(i) the amount of the increase (if any) in taxable income which results from a difference between the proper tax treatment of an item to which this section applies and the taxpayer's treatment of such item (as shown on the taxpayer's return of tax), and

''(ii) the highest rate of tax imposed by section 1 (section 11 in the case of a taxpayer which is a corporation), and

''(B) the amount of the decrease (if any) in the aggregate amount of credits determined under subtitle A which results from a difference between the taxpayer's treatment of an item to which this section applies (as shown on the taxpayer's return of tax) and the proper tax treatment of such item.

For purposes of subparagraph (A), any reduction of the excess of deductions allowed for the taxable year over gross income for such year, and any reduction in the amount of capital losses which would (without regard to section 1211) be allowed for such year, shall be treated as an increase in taxable income.

''(2) ITEMS TO WHICH SECTION APPLIES.—This section shall apply to any item which is attributable to—

''(A) any listed transaction, and

''(B) any reportable transaction (other than a listed transaction) if a significant purpose of such transaction is the avoidance or evasion of Federal income tax.

''(c) HIGHER PENALTY FOR NONDISCLOSED LISTED AND OTHER AVOIDANCE TRANSACTIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting '30 percent' for '20 percent' with respect to the portion of any reportable transaction understatement with respect to which the requirement of section 6664(d)(2)(A) is not met.

''(2) RULES APPLICABLE TO ASSERTION AND COMPROMISE OF PENALTY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Only upon the approval by the Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service or the Chief Counsel's delegate at the national office of the Internal Revenue Service may a penalty to which paragraph (1) applies be included in a 1st letter of proposed deficiency which allows the taxpayer an opportunity for administrative review in the Internal Revenue Service Office of Appeals. If such a letter is provided to the taxpayer, only the Commissioner of Internal Revenue may compromise all or any portion of such penalty.

''(B) APPLICABLE RULES.—The rules of paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5) of section 6707A(d) shall apply for purposes of subparagraph (A).

''(d) DEFINITIONS OF REPORTABLE AND LISTED TRANSACTIONS.—For purposes of this section, the terms 'reportable transaction' and 'listed transaction' have the respective meanings given to such terms by section 6707A(c).

''(e) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(1) COORDINATION WITH PENALTIES, ETC., ON OTHER UNDERSTATEMENTS.—In the case of an understatement (as defined in section 6662(d)(2))—

''(A) the amount of such understatement (determined without regard to this paragraph) shall be increased by the aggregate amount of reportable transaction understatements and noneconomic substance transaction understatements for purposes of determining whether such understatement is a substantial understatement under section 6662(d)(1), and

''(B) the addition to tax under section 6662(a) shall apply only to the excess of the amount of the substantial understatement (if any) after the application of subparagraph (A) over the aggregate amount of reportable transaction understatements and noneconomic substance transaction understatements.

''(2) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PENALTIES.—

''(A) APPLICATION OF FRAUD PENALTY.—References to an underpayment in section 6663 shall be treated as including references to a reportable transaction understatement and a noneconomic substance transaction understatement.

''(B) NO DOUBLE PENALTY.—This section shall not apply to any portion of an understatement on which a penalty is imposed under section 6662B or 6663.

''(3) SPECIAL RULE FOR AMENDED RETURNS.—Except as provided in regulations, in no event shall any tax treatment included with an amendment or supplement to a return of tax be taken into account in determining the amount of any reportable transaction understatement or noneconomic substance transaction understatement if the amendment or supplement is filed after the earlier of the date the taxpayer is first contacted by the Secretary regarding the examination of the return or such other date as is specified by the Secretary.

''(4) NONECONOMIC SUBSTANCE TRANSACTION UNDERSTATEMENT.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'noneconomic substance transaction understatement' has the meaning given such term by section 6662B(c).

''(5) CROSS REFERENCE.—

''For reporting of section 6662A(c) penalty to the Securities and Exchange Commission, see section 6707A(e).''.

(b) DETERMINATION OF OTHER UNDERSTATEMENTS.—Subparagraph (A) of section 6662(d)(2) is amended by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

''The excess under the preceding sentence shall be determined without regard to items to which section 6662A applies and without regard to items with respect to which a penalty is imposed by section 6662B.''.

(c) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6664 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION FOR REPORTABLE TRANSACTION UNDERSTATEMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—No penalty shall be imposed under section 6662A with respect to any portion of a reportable transaction understatement if it is shown that there was a reasonable cause for such portion and that the taxpayer acted in good faith with respect to such portion.

''(2) SPECIAL RULES.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any reportable transaction understatement unless—

''(A) the relevant facts affecting the tax treatment of the item are adequately disclosed in accordance with the regulations prescribed under section 6011,

''(B) there is or was substantial authority for such treatment, and

''(C) the taxpayer reasonably believed that such treatment was more likely than not the proper treatment.

A taxpayer failing to adequately disclose in accordance with section 6011 shall be treated as meeting the requirements of subparagraph (A) if the penalty for such failure was rescinded under section 6707A(d).

''(3) RULES RELATING TO REASONABLE BELIEF.—For purposes of paragraph (2)(C)—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A taxpayer shall be treated as having a reasonable belief with respect to the tax treatment of an item only if such belief—

''(i) is based on the facts and law that exist at the time the return of tax which includes such tax treatment is filed, and

''(ii) relates solely to the taxpayer's chances of success on the merits of such treatment and does not take into account the possibility that a return will not be audited, such treatment will not be raised on audit, or such treatment will be resolved through settlement if it is raised.

''(B) CERTAIN OPINIONS MAY NOT BE RELIED UPON.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—An opinion of a tax advisor may not be relied upon to establish the reasonable belief of a taxpayer if—

''(I) the tax advisor is described in clause (ii), or

''(II) the opinion is described in clause (iii).

''(ii) DISQUALIFIED TAX ADVISORS.—A tax advisor is described in this clause if the tax advisor—

''(I) is a material advisor (within the meaning of section 6111(b)(1)) who participates in the organization, management, promotion, or sale of the transaction or who is related (within the meaning of section 267(b) or 707(b)(1)) to any person who so participates,

''(II) is compensated directly or indirectly by a material advisor with respect to the transaction,

''(III) has a fee arrangement with respect to the transaction which is contingent on all or part of the intended tax benefits from the transaction being sustained, or

''(IV) as determined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, has a disqualifying financial interest with respect to the transaction.

''(iii) DISQUALIFIED OPINIONS.—For purposes of clause (i), an opinion is disqualified if the opinion—

''(I) is based on unreasonable factual or legal assumptions (including assumptions as to future events),

''(II) unreasonably relies on representations, statements, findings, or agreements of the taxpayer or any other person,

''(III) does not identify and consider all relevant facts, or

''(IV) fails to meet any other requirement as the Secretary may prescribe.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading for subsection (c) of section 6664 is amended by inserting ''FOR UNDERPAYMENTS'' after ''EXCEPTION''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subparagraph (C) of section 461(i)(3) is amended by striking ''section 6662(d)(2)(C)(iii)'' and inserting ''section 1274(b)(3)(C)''.

(2) Paragraph (3) of section 1274(b) is amended—

(A) by striking ''(as defined in section 6662(d)(2)(C)(iii))'' in subparagraph (B)(i), and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) TAX SHELTER.—For purposes of subparagraph (B), the term 'tax shelter' means—

''(i) a partnership or other entity,

''(ii) any investment plan or arrangement, or

''(iii) any other plan or arrangement,

if a significant purpose of such partnership, entity, plan, or arrangement is the avoidance or evasion of Federal income tax.''.

(3) Section 6662(d)(2) is amended by striking subparagraphs (C) and (D).

(4) Section 6664(c)(1) is amended by striking ''this part'' and inserting ''section 6662 or 6663''.

(5) Subsection (b) of section 7525 is amended by striking ''section 6662(d)(2)(C)(iii)'' and inserting ''section 1274(b)(3)(C)''.

(6)(A) The heading for section 6662 is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 6662. IMPOSITION OF ACCURACY-RELATED PENALTY ON UNDERPAYMENTS.''.

(B) The table of sections for part II of subchapter A of chapter 68 is amended by striking the item relating to section 6662 and inserting the following new items:

''Sec. 6662. Imposition of accuracy-related penalty on underpayments.

''Sec. 6662A. Imposition of accuracy-related penalty on understatements with respect to reportable transactions.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5614. PENALTY FOR UNDERSTATEMENTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO TRANSACTIONS LACKING ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE, ETC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter A of chapter 68 is amended by inserting after section 6662A the following new section:

''SEC. 6662B. PENALTY FOR UNDERSTATEMENTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO TRANSACTIONS LACKING ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE, ETC.

''(a) IMPOSITION OF PENALTY.—If a taxpayer has an noneconomic substance transaction understatement for any taxable year, there shall be added to the tax an amount equal to 40 percent of the amount of such understatement.

''(b) REDUCTION OF PENALTY FOR DISCLOSED TRANSACTIONS.—Subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting '20 percent' for '40 percent' with respect to the portion of any noneconomic substance transaction understatement with respect to which the relevant facts affecting the tax treatment of the item are adequately disclosed in the return or a statement attached to the return.

''(c) NONECONOMIC SUBSTANCE TRANSACTION UNDERSTATEMENT.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'noneconomic substance transaction understatement' means any amount which would be an understatement under section 6662A(b)(1) if section 6662A were applied by taking into account items attributable to noneconomic substance transactions rather than items to which section 6662A would apply without regard to this paragraph.

''(2) NONECONOMIC SUBSTANCE TRANSACTION.—The term 'noneconomic substance transaction' means any transaction if—

''(A) there is a lack of economic substance (within the meaning of section 7701(n)(1)) for the transaction giving rise to the claimed benefit or the transaction was not respected under section 7701(n)(2), or

''(B) the transaction fails to meet the requirements of any similar rule of law.

''(d) RULES APPLICABLE TO COMPROMISE OF PENALTY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If the 1st letter of proposed deficiency which allows the taxpayer an opportunity for administrative review in the Internal Revenue Service Office of Appeals has been sent with respect to a penalty to which this section applies, only the Commissioner of Internal Revenue may compromise all or any portion of such penalty.

''(2) APPLICABLE RULES.—The rules of paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5) of section 6707A(d) shall apply for purposes of paragraph (1).

''(e) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PENALTIES.—Except as otherwise provided in this part, the penalty imposed by this section shall be in addition to any other penalty imposed by this title.

''(f) CROSS REFERENCES.—

''(1) For coordination of penalty with understatements under section 6662 and other special rules, see section 6662A(e).

''(2) For reporting of penalty imposed under this section to the Securities and Exchange Commission, see section 6707A(e).''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part II of subchapter A of chapter 68 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 6662A the following new item:

''Sec. 6662B. Penalty for understatements attributable to transactions lacking economic substance, etc.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transactions entered into after February 2, 2004.

SEC. 5615. MODIFICATIONS OF SUBSTANTIAL UNDERSTATEMENT PENALTY FOR NONREPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS.

(a) SUBSTANTIAL UNDERSTATEMENT OF CORPORATIONS.—Section 6662(d)(1)(B) (relating to special rule for corporations) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR CORPORATIONS.—In the case of a corporation other than an S corporation or a personal holding company (as defined in section 542), there is a substantial understatement of income tax for any taxable year if the amount of the understatement for the taxable year exceeds the lesser of—

''(i) 10 percent of the tax required to be shown on the return for the taxable year (or, if greater, $10,000), or

''(ii) $10,000,000.''.

(b) REDUCTION FOR UNDERSTATEMENT OF TAXPAYER DUE TO POSITION OF TAXPAYER OR DISCLOSED ITEM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6662(d)(2)(B)(i) (relating to substantial authority) is amended to read as follows:

''(i) the tax treatment of any item by the taxpayer if the taxpayer had reasonable belief that the tax treatment was more likely than not the proper treatment, or''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 6662(d) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) SECRETARIAL LIST.—For purposes of this subsection, section 6664(d)(2), and section 6694(a)(1), the Secretary may prescribe a list of positions for which the Secretary believes there is not substantial authority or there is no reasonable belief that the tax treatment is more likely than not the proper tax treatment. Such list (and any revisions thereof) shall be published in the Federal Register or the Internal Revenue Bulletin.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5616. TAX SHELTER EXCEPTION TO CONFIDENTIALITY PRIVILEGES RELATING TO TAXPAYER COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7525(b) (relating to section not to apply to communications regarding corporate tax shelters) is amended to read as follows:

''(b) SECTION NOT TO APPLY TO COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING TAX SHELTERS.—The privilege under subsection (a) shall not apply to any written communication which is—

''(1) between a federally authorized tax practitioner and—

''(A) any person,

''(B) any director, officer, employee, agent, or representative of the person, or

''(C) any other person holding a capital or profits interest in the person, and

''(2) in connection with the promotion of the direct or indirect participation of the person in any tax shelter (as defined in section 1274(b)(3)(C)).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to communications made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5617. DISCLOSURE OF REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6111 (relating to registration of tax shelters) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 6111. DISCLOSURE OF REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Each material advisor with respect to any reportable transaction shall make a return (in such form as the Secretary may prescribe) setting forth—

''(1) information identifying and describing the transaction,

''(2) information describing any potential tax benefits expected to result from the transaction, and

''(3) such other information as the Secretary may prescribe.

Such return shall be filed not later than the date specified by the Secretary.

''(b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) MATERIAL ADVISOR.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'material advisor' means any person—

''(i) who provides any material aid, assistance, or advice with respect to organizing, managing, promoting, selling, implementing, or carrying out any reportable transaction, and

''(ii) who directly or indirectly derives gross income in excess of the threshold amount for such aid, assistance, or advice.

''(B) THRESHOLD AMOUNT.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the threshold amount is—

''(i) $50,000 in the case of a reportable transaction substantially all of the tax benefits from which are provided to natural persons, and

''(ii) $250,000 in any other case.

''(2) REPORTABLE TRANSACTION.—The term 'reportable transaction' has the meaning given to such term by section 6707A(c).

''(c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe regulations which provide—

''(1) that only 1 person shall be required to meet the requirements of subsection (a) in cases in which 2 or more persons would otherwise be required to meet such requirements,

''(2) exemptions from the requirements of this section, and

''(3) such rules as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The item relating to section 6111 in the table of sections for subchapter B of chapter 61 is amended to read as follows:

''Sec. 6111. Disclosure of reportable transactions.''.

(2)(A) So much of section 6112 as precedes subsection (c) thereof is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 6112. MATERIAL ADVISORS OF REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS MUST KEEP LISTS OF ADVISEES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Each material advisor (as defined in section 6111) with respect to any reportable transaction (as defined in section 6707A(c)) shall maintain, in such manner as the Secretary may by regulations prescribe, a list—

''(1) identifying each person with respect to whom such advisor acted as such a material advisor with respect to such transaction, and

''(2) containing such other information as the Secretary may by regulations require.

This section shall apply without regard to whether a material advisor is required to file a return under section 6111 with respect to such transaction.''.

(B) Section 6112 is amended by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b).

(C) Section 6112(b), as redesignated by subparagraph (B), is amended—

(i) by inserting ''written'' before ''request'' in paragraph (1)(A), and

(ii) by striking ''shall prescribe'' in paragraph (2) and inserting ''may prescribe''.

(D) The item relating to section 6112 in the table of sections for subchapter B of chapter 61 is amended to read as follows:

''Sec. 6112. Material advisors of reportable transactions must keep lists of advisees.''.

(3)(A) The heading for section 6708 is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 6708. FAILURE TO MAINTAIN LISTS OF ADVISEES WITH RESPECT TO REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS.''.

(B) The item relating to section 6708 in the table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 is amended to read as follows:

''Sec. 6708. Failure to maintain lists of advisees with respect to reportable transactions.''.

(c) REQUIRED DISCLOSURE NOT SUBJECT TO CLAIM OF CONFIDENTIALITY.—Subparagraph (A) of section 6112(b)(1), as redesignated by subsection (b)(2)(B), is amended by adding at the end the following new flush sentence:

''For purposes of this section, the identity of any person on such list shall not be privileged.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section

shall apply to transactions with respect to which material aid, assistance, or advice referred to in section 6111(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section) is provided after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) NO CLAIM OF CONFIDENTIALITY AGAINST DISCLOSURE.—The amendment made by subsection (c) shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by section 142 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 1984.

SEC. 5618. MODIFICATIONS TO PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO REGISTER TAX SHELTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6707 (relating to failure to furnish information regarding tax shelters) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 6707. FAILURE TO FURNISH INFORMATION REGARDING REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—If a person who is required to file a return under section 6111(a) with respect to any reportable transaction—

''(1) fails to file such return on or before the date prescribed therefor, or

''(2) files false or incomplete information with the Secretary with respect to such transaction, such person shall pay a penalty with respect to such return in the amount determined under subsection (b).

''(b) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the penalty imposed under subsection (a) with respect to any failure shall be $50,000.

''(2) LISTED TRANSACTIONS.—The penalty imposed under subsection (a) with respect to any listed transaction shall be an amount equal to the greater of—

''(A) $200,000, or

''(B) 50 percent of the gross income derived by such person with respect to aid, assistance, or advice which is provided with respect to the listed transaction before the date the return including the transaction is filed under section 6111.

Subparagraph (B) shall be applied by substituting '75 percent' for '50 percent' in the case of an intentional failure or act described in subsection (a).

''(c) CERTAIN RULES TO APPLY.—The provisions of section 6707A(d) shall apply to any penalty imposed under this section.

''(d) REPORTABLE AND LISTED TRANSACTIONS.—The terms 'reportable transaction' and 'listed transaction' have the respective meanings given to such terms by section 6707A(c).''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 6707 in the table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 is amended by striking ''tax shelters'' and inserting ''reportable transactions''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to returns the due date for which is after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5619. MODIFICATION OF PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO MAINTAIN LISTS OF INVESTORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 6708 is amended to read as follows:

''(a) IMPOSITION OF PENALTY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If any person who is required to maintain a list under section 6112(a) fails to make such list available upon written request to the Secretary in accordance with section 6112(b)(1)(A) within 20 business days after the date of the Secretary's request, such person shall pay a penalty of $10,000 for each day of such failure after such 20th day.

''(2) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—No penalty shall be imposed by paragraph (1) with respect to the failure on any day if such failure is due to reasonable cause.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to requests made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5620. MODIFICATION OF ACTIONS TO ENJOIN CERTAIN CONDUCT RELATED TO TAX SHELTERS AND REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7408 (relating to action to enjoin promoters of abusive tax shelters, etc.) is amended by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d) and by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following new subsections:

''(a) AUTHORITY TO SEEK INJUNCTION.—A civil action in the name of the United States to enjoin any person from further engaging in specified conduct may be commenced at the request of the Secretary. Any action under this section shall be brought in the district court of the United States for the district in which such person resides, has his principal place of business, or has engaged in specified conduct. The court may exercise its jurisdiction over such action (as provided in section 7402(a)) separate and apart from any other action brought by the United States against such person.

''(b) ADJUDICATION AND DECREE.—In any action under subsection (a), if the court finds—

''(1) that the person has engaged in any specified conduct, and

''(2) that injunctive relief is appropriate to prevent recurrence of such conduct,

the court may enjoin such person from engaging in such conduct or in any other activity subject to penalty under this title.

''(c) SPECIFIED CONDUCT.—For purposes of this section, the term 'specified conduct' means any action, or failure to take action, subject to penalty under section 6700, 6701, 6707, or 6708.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The heading for section 7408 is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 7408. ACTIONS TO ENJOIN SPECIFIED CONDUCT RELATED TO TAX SHELTERS AND REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS.".

(2) The table of sections for subchapter A of chapter 67 is amended by striking the item relating to section 7408 and inserting the following new item:

''Sec. 7408. Actions to enjoin specified conduct related to tax shelters and reportable transactions.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on the day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5621. UNDERSTATEMENT OF TAXPAYER'S LIABILITY BY INCOME TAX RETURN PREPARER.

(a) STANDARDS CONFORMED TO TAXPAYER STANDARDS.—Section 6694(a) (relating to understatements due to unrealistic positions) is amended—

(1) by striking ''realistic possibility of being sustained on its merits'' in paragraph (1) and inserting ''reasonable belief that the tax treatment in such position was more likely than not the proper treatment'',

(2) by striking ''or was frivolous'' in paragraph (3) and inserting ''or there was no reasonable basis for the tax treatment of such position'', and

(3) by striking ''UNREALISTIC'' in the heading and inserting ''IMPROPER''.

(b) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—Section 6694 is amended—

(1) by striking ''$250'' in subsection (a) and inserting ''$1,000'', and

(2) by striking ''$1,000'' in subsection (b) and inserting ''$5,000''.

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

SEC. 5622. PENALTY ON FAILURE TO REPORT INTERESTS IN FOREIGN FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5321(a)(5) of title 31, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(5) FOREIGN FINANCIAL AGENCY TRANSACTION VIOLATION.—

''(A) PENALTY AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of the Treasury may impose a civil money penalty on any person who violates, or causes any violation of, any provision of section 5314.

''(B) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), the amount of any civil penalty imposed under subparagraph (A) shall not exceed $5,000.

''(ii) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION.—No penalty shall be imposed under subparagraph (A) with respect to any violation if—

''(I) such violation was due to reasonable cause, and

''(II) the amount of the transaction or the balance in the account at the time of the transaction was properly reported.

''(C) WILLFUL VIOLATIONS.—In the case of any person willfully violating, or willfully causing any violation of, any provision of section 5314—

''(i) the maximum penalty under subparagraph (B)(i) shall be increased to the greater of—

''(I) $25,000, or

''(II) the amount (not exceeding $100,000) determined under subparagraph (D), and

''(ii) subparagraph (B)(ii) shall not apply.

''(D) AMOUNT.—The amount determined under this subparagraph is—

''(i) in the case of a violation involving a transaction, the amount of the transaction, or

''(ii) in the case of a violation involving a failure to report the existence of an account or any identifying information required to be provided with respect to an account, the balance in the account at the time of the violation.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to violations occurring after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5623. FRIVOLOUS TAX SUBMISSIONS.

(a) CIVIL PENALTIES.—Section 6702 is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 6702. FRIVOLOUS TAX SUBMISSIONS.

''(a) CIVIL PENALTY FOR FRIVOLOUS TAX RETURNS.—A person shall pay a penalty of $5,000 if—

''(1) such person files what purports to be a return of a tax imposed by this title but which—

''(A) does not contain information on which the substantial correctness of the self-assessment may be judged, or

''(B) contains information that on its face indicates that the self-assessment is substantially incorrect; and

''(2) the conduct referred to in paragraph (1)—

''(A) is based on a position which the Secretary has identified as frivolous under subsection (c), or

''(B) reflects a desire to delay or impede the administration of Federal tax laws.

''(b) CIVIL PENALTY FOR SPECIFIED FRIVOLOUS SUBMISSIONS.—

''(1) IMPOSITION OF PENALTY.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), any person who submits a specified frivolous submission shall pay a penalty of $5,000.

''(2) SPECIFIED FRIVOLOUS SUBMISSION.—For purposes of this section—

''(A) SPECIFIED FRIVOLOUS SUBMISSION.—The term 'specified frivolous submission' means a specified submission if any portion of such submission—

''(i) is based on a position which the Secretary has identified as frivolous under subsection (c), or

''(ii) reflects a desire to delay or impede the administration of Federal tax laws.

''(B) SPECIFIED SUBMISSION.—The term 'specified submission' means—

''(i) a request for a hearing under—

''(I) section 6320 (relating to notice and opportunity for hearing upon filing of notice of lien), or

''(II) section 6330 (relating to notice and opportunity for hearing before levy), and

''(ii) an application under—

''(I) section 6159 (relating to agreements for payment of tax liability in installments),

''(II) section 7122 (relating to compromises), or

''(III) section 7811 (relating to taxpayer assistance orders).

''(3) OPPORTUNITY TO WITHDRAW SUBMISSION.—If the Secretary provides a person with notice that a submission is a specified frivolous submission and such person withdraws such submission within 30 days after such notice, the penalty imposed under paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to such submission.

''(c) LISTING OF FRIVOLOUS POSITIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe (and periodically revise) a list of positions which the Secretary has identified as being frivolous for purposes of this subsection. The Secretary shall not include in such list any position that the Secretary determines meets the requirement of section 6662(d)(2)(B)(ii)(II).

''(d) REDUCTION OF PENALTY.—The Secretary may reduce the amount of any penalty imposed under this section if the Secretary determines that such reduction would promote compliance with and administration of the Federal tax laws.

''(e) PENALTIES IN ADDITION TO OTHER PENALTIES.—The penalties imposed by this section shall be in addition to any other penalty provided by law.''.

(b) TREATMENT OF FRIVOLOUS REQUESTS FOR HEARINGS BEFORE LEVY.—

(1) FRIVOLOUS REQUESTS DISREGARDED.—Section 6330 (relating to notice and opportunity for hearing before levy) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(g) FRIVOLOUS REQUESTS FOR HEARING, ETC.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if the Secretary determines that any portion of a request for a hearing under this section or section 6320 meets the requirement of clause (i) or (ii) of section 6702(b)(2)(A), then the Secretary may treat such portion as if it were never submitted and such portion shall not be subject to any further administrative or judicial review.''.

(2) PRECLUSION FROM RAISING FRIVOLOUS ISSUES AT HEARING.—Section 6330(c)(4) is amended—

(A) by striking ''(A)'' and inserting ''(A)(i)'';

(B) by striking ''(B)'' and inserting ''(ii)'';

(C) by striking the period at the end of the first sentence and inserting ''; or''; and

(D) by inserting after subparagraph (A)(ii) (as so redesignated) the following:

''(B) the issue meets the requirement of clause (i) or (ii) of section 6702(b)(2)(A).''.

(3) STATEMENT OF GROUNDS.—Section 6330(b)(1) is amended by striking ''under subsection (a)(3)(B)'' and inserting ''in writing under subsection (a)(3)(B) and states the grounds for the requested hearing''.

(c) TREATMENT OF FRIVOLOUS REQUESTS FOR HEARINGS UPON FILING OF NOTICE OF LIEN.—Section 6320 is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by striking ''under subsection (a)(3)(B)'' and inserting ''in writing under subsection (a)(3)(B) and states the grounds for the requested hearing'', and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking ''and (e)'' and inserting ''(e), and (g)''.

(d) TREATMENT OF FRIVOLOUS APPLICATIONS FOR OFFERS-IN-COMPROMISE AND INSTALLMENT AGREEMENTS.—Section 7122 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) FRIVOLOUS SUBMISSIONS, ETC.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if the Secretary determines that any portion of an application for an offer-in-compromise or installment agreement submitted under this section or section 6159 meets the requirement of clause (i) or (ii) of section 6702(b)(2)(A), then the Secretary may treat such portion as if it were never submitted and such portion shall not be subject to any further administrative or judicial review.''.

(e) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 is amended by striking the item relating to section 6702 and inserting the following new item:

''Sec. 6702. Frivolous tax submissions.''.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to submissions made and issues raised after the date on which the Secretary first prescribes a list under section 6702(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by subsection (a).

SEC. 5624. REGULATION OF INDIVIDUALS PRACTICING BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY.

(a) CENSURE; IMPOSITION OF PENALTY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 330(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by inserting '', or censure,'' after ''Department'', and

(B) by adding at the end the following new flush sentence:

''The Secretary may impose a monetary penalty on any representative described in the preceding sentence. If the representative was acting on behalf of an employer or any firm or other entity in connection with the conduct giving rise to such penalty, the Secretary may impose a monetary penalty on such employer, firm, or entity if it knew, or reasonably should have known, of such conduct. Such penalty shall not exceed the gross income derived (or to be derived) from the conduct giving rise to the penalty and may be in addition to, or in lieu of, any suspension, disbarment, or censure of the representative.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to actions taken after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) TAX SHELTER OPINIONS, ETC.—Section 330 of such title 31 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) Nothing in this section or in any other provision of law shall be construed to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to impose standards applicable to the rendering of written advice with respect to any entity, transaction plan or arrangement, or other plan or arrangement, which is of a type which the Secretary determines as having a potential for tax avoidance or evasion.''.

SEC. 5625. PENALTY ON PROMOTERS OF TAX SHELTERS.

(a) PENALTY ON PROMOTING ABUSIVE TAX SHELTERS.—Section 6700(a) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Notwithstanding the first sentence, if an activity with respect to which a penalty imposed under this subsection involves a statement described in paragraph (2)(A), the amount of the penalty shall be equal to 50 percent of the gross income derived (or to be derived) from such activity by the person on which the penalty is imposed.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to activities after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5626. STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR TAXABLE YEARS FOR WHICH REQUIRED LISTED TRANSACTIONS NOT REPORTED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6501(c) (relating to exceptions) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(10) LISTED TRANSACTIONS.—If a taxpayer fails to include on any return or statement for any taxable year any information with respect to a listed transaction (as defined in section 6707A(c)(2)) which is required under section 6011 to be included with such return or statement, the time for assessment of any tax imposed by this title with respect to such transaction shall not expire before the date which is 1 year after the earlier of—

''(A) the date on which the Secretary is furnished the information so required; or

''(B) the date that a material advisor (as defined in section 6111) meets the requirements of section 6112 with respect to a request by the Secretary under section 6112(b) relating to such transaction with respect to such taxpayer.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years with respect to which the period for assessing a deficiency did not expire before the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5627. DENIAL OF DEDUCTION FOR INTEREST ON UNDERPAYMENTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO NONDISCLOSED REPORTABLE AND NONECONOMIC SUBSTANCE TRANSACTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 163 (relating to deduction for interest) is amended by redesignating subsection (m) as subsection (n) and by inserting after subsection (l) the following new subsection:

''(m) INTEREST ON UNPAID TAXES ATTRIBUTABLE TO NONDISCLOSED REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS AND NONECONOMIC SUBSTANCE TRANSACTIONS.—No deduction shall be allowed under this chapter for any interest paid or accrued under section 6601 on any underpayment of tax which is attributable to—

''(1) the portion of any reportable transaction understatement (as defined in section 6662A(b)) with respect to which the requirement of section 6664(d)(2)(A) is not met, or

''(2) any noneconomic substance transaction understatement (as defined in section 6662B(c)).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transactions in taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5628. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR TAX LAW ENFORCEMENT.

There is authorized to be appropriated $300,000,000 for each fiscal year beginning after September 30, 2003, for the purpose of carrying out tax law enforcement to combat tax avoidance transactions and other tax shelters, including the use of offshore financial accounts to conceal taxable income.

PART III—OTHER CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PROVISIONS

SEC. 5631. AFFIRMATION OF CONSOLIDATED RETURN REGULATION AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1502 (relating to consolidated return regulations) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''In prescribing such regulations, the Secretary may prescribe rules applicable to corporations filing consolidated returns under section 1501 that are different from other provisions of this title that would apply if such corporations filed separate returns.''.

(b) RESULT NOT OVERTURNED.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall be construed by treating Treasury regulation §1.1502–20(c)(1)(iii) (as in effect on January 1, 2001) as being inapplicable to the type of factual situation in 255 F.3d 1357 (Fed. Cir. 2001).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The provisions of this section shall apply to taxable years beginning before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5632. DECLARATION BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RELATING TO FEDERAL ANNUAL CORPORATE INCOME TAX RETURN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal tax return of a corporation with respect to income shall also include a declaration signed by the chief executive officer of such corporation (or other such officer of the corporation as the Secretary of the Treasury may designate if the corporation does not have a chief executive officer), under penalties of perjury, that the chief executive officer has established processes and procedures that ensure that such return complies with the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and that the chief executive officer was provided reasonable assurance of the accuracy of all material aspects of such return. The preceding sentence shall not apply to any return of a regulated investment company (within the meaning of section 851 of such Code).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply to Federal tax returns filed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5633. DENIAL OF DEDUCTION FOR CERTAIN FINES, PENALTIES, AND OTHER AMOUNTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 162 (relating to trade or business expenses) is amended to read as follows:

''(f) FINES, PENALTIES, AND OTHER AMOUNTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), no deduction otherwise allowable shall be allowed under this chapter for any amount paid or incurred (whether by suit, agreement, or otherwise) to, or at the direction of, a government or entity described in paragraph (4) in relation to the violation of any law or the investigation or inquiry by such government or entity into the potential violation of any law.

''(2) EXCEPTION FOR AMOUNTS CONSTITUTING RESTITUTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any amount which the taxpayer establishes constitutes restitution for damage or harm caused by the violation of any law or the potential violation of any law. This paragraph shall not apply to any amount paid or incurred as reimbursement to the government or entity for the costs of any investigation or litigation.

''(3) EXCEPTION FOR AMOUNTS PAID OR INCURRED AS THE RESULT OF CERTAIN COURT ORDERS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any amount paid or incurred by order of a court in a suit in which no government or entity described in paragraph (4) is a party.

''(4) CERTAIN NONGOVERNMENTAL REGULATORY ENTITIES.—An entity is described in this paragraph if it is—

''(A) a nongovernmental entity which exercises self-regulatory powers (including imposing sanctions) in connection with a qualified board or exchange (as defined in section 1256(g)(7)), or

''(B) to the extent provided in regulations, a nongovernmental entity which exercises self-regulatory powers (including imposing sanctions) as part of performing an essential governmental function.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after April 27, 2003, except that such amendment shall not apply to amounts paid or incurred under any binding order or agreement entered into on or before April 27, 2003. Such exception shall not apply to an order or agreement requiring court approval unless the approval was obtained on or before April 27, 2003.

SEC. 5634. DISALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION FOR PUNITIVE DAMAGES.

(a) DISALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 162(g) (relating to treble damage payments under the antitrust laws) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) PUNITIVE DAMAGES.—No deduction shall be allowed under this chapter for any amount paid or incurred for punitive damages in connection with any judgment in, or settlement of, any action. This paragraph shall not apply to punitive damages described in section 104(c).''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 162(g) is amended—

(i) by striking ''If'' and inserting:

''(1) TREBLE DAMAGES.—If'', and

(ii) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively.

(B) The heading for section 162(g) is amended by inserting ''OR PUNITIVE DAMAGES'' after ''LAWS''.

(b) INCLUSION IN INCOME OF PUNITIVE DAMAGES PAID BY INSURER OR OTHERWISE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part II of subchapter B of chapter 1 (relating to items specifically included in gross income) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 91. PUNITIVE DAMAGES COMPENSATED BY INSURANCE OR OTHERWISE.

''Gross income shall include any amount paid to or on behalf of a taxpayer as insurance or otherwise by reason of the taxpayer's liability (or agreement) to pay punitive damages.''.

(2) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 6041 (relating to information at source) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(f) SECTION TO APPLY TO PUNITIVE DAMAGES COMPENSATION.—This section shall apply to payments by a person to or on behalf of another person as insurance or otherwise by reason of the other person's liability (or agreement) to pay punitive damages.''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part II of subchapter B of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 91. Punitive damages compensated by insurance or otherwise.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to damages paid or incurred on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5635. INCREASE IN CRIMINAL MONETARY PENALTY LIMITATION FOR THE UNDERPAYMENT OR OVERPAYMENT OF TAX DUE TO FRAUD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7206 (relating to fraud and false statements) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Any person who—'' and inserting ''(a) IN GENERAL.—Any person who—'', and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(b) INCREASE IN MONETARY LIMITATION FOR UNDERPAYMENT OR OVERPAYMENT OF TAX DUE TO FRAUD.—If any portion of any underpayment (as defined in section 6664(a)) or overpayment (as defined in section 6401(a)) of tax required to be shown on a return is attributable to fraudulent action described in subsection (a), the applicable dollar amount under subsection (a) shall in no event be less than an amount equal to such portion. A rule similar to the rule under section 6663(b) shall apply for purposes of determining the portion so attributable.''.

(b) INCREASE IN PENALTIES.—

(1) ATTEMPT TO EVADE OR DEFEAT TAX.—Section 7201 is amended—

(A) by striking ''$100,000'' and inserting ''$250,000'',

(B) by striking ''$500,000'' and inserting ''$1,000,000'', and

(C) by striking ''5 years'' and inserting ''10 years''.

(2) WILLFUL FAILURE TO FILE RETURN, SUPPLY INFORMATION, OR PAY TAX.—Section 7203 is amended—

(A) in the first sentence—

(i) by striking ''misdemeanor'' and inserting ''felony'', and

(ii) by striking ''1 year'' and inserting ''10 years'', and

(B) by striking the third sentence.

(3) FRAUD AND FALSE STATEMENTS.—Section 7206(a) (as redesignated by subsection (a)) is amended—

(A) by striking ''$100,000'' and inserting ''$250,000'',

(B) by striking ''$500,000'' and inserting ''$1,000,000'', and

(C) by striking ''3 years'' and inserting ''5 years''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to underpayments and overpayments attributable to actions occurring after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5636. DOUBLING OF CERTAIN PENALTIES, FINES, AND INTEREST ON UNDERPAYMENTS RELATED TO CERTAIN OFFSHORE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

(a) GENERAL RULE.—If—

(1) a taxpayer eligible to participate in—

(A) the Department of the Treasury's Offshore Voluntary Compliance Initiative, or

(B) the Department of the Treasury's voluntary disclosure initiative which applies to the taxpayer by reason of the taxpayer's underreporting of United States income tax liability through financial arrangements which rely on the use of offshore arrangements which were the subject of the initiative described in subparagraph (A), and

(2) any interest or applicable penalty is imposed with respect to any arrangement to which any initiative described in paragraph (1) applied or to any underpayment of Federal income tax attributable to items arising in connection with any arrangement described in paragraph (1),

then, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the amount of such interest or penalty shall be equal to twice that determined without regard to this section.

(b) DEFINITIONS AND RULES.—For purposes of this section—

(1) APPLICABLE PENALTY.—The term ''applicable penalty'' means any penalty, addition to tax, or fine imposed under chapter 68 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(2) VOLUNTARY OFFSHORE COMPLIANCE INITIATIVE.—The term ''Voluntary Offshore Compliance Initiative'' means the program established by the Department of the Treasury in January of 2003 under which any taxpayer was eligible to voluntarily disclose previously undisclosed income on assets placed in offshore accounts and accessed through credit card and other financial arrangements.

(3) PARTICIPATION.—A taxpayer shall be treated as having participated in the Voluntary Offshore Compliance Initiative if the taxpayer submitted the request in a timely manner and all information requested by the Secretary of the Treasury or his delegate within a reasonable period of time following the request.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The provisions of this section shall apply to interest, penalties, additions to tax, and fines with respect to any taxable year if as of the date of the enactment of this Act, the assessment of any tax, penalty, or interest with respect to such taxable year is not prevented by the operation of any law or rule of law.

PART IV—ENRON-RELATED TAX SHELTER PROVISIONS

SEC. 5641. LIMITATION ON TRANSFER OR IMPORTATION OF BUILT-IN LOSSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 362 (relating to basis to corporations) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) LIMITATIONS ON BUILT-IN LOSSES.—

''(1) LIMITATION ON IMPORTATION OF BUILT-IN LOSSES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If in any transaction described in subsection (a) or (b) there would (but for this subsection) be an importation of a net built-in loss, the basis of each property described in subparagraph (B) which is acquired in such transaction shall (notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b)) be its fair market value immediately after such transaction.

''(B) PROPERTY DESCRIBED.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), property is described in this subparagraph if—

''(i) gain or loss with respect to such property is not subject to tax under this subtitle in the hands of the transferor immediately before the transfer, and

''(ii) gain or loss with respect to such property is subject to such tax in the hands of the transferee immediately after such transfer.

In any case in which the transferor is a partnership, the preceding sentence shall be applied by treating each partner in such partnership as holding such partner's proportionate share of the property of such partnership.

''(C) IMPORTATION OF NET BUILT-IN LOSS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), there is an importation of a net built-in loss in a transaction if the transferee's aggregate adjusted bases of property described in subparagraph (B) which is transferred in such transaction would (but for this paragraph) exceed the fair market value of such property immediately after such transaction.''.

''(2) LIMITATION ON TRANSFER OF BUILT-IN LOSSES IN SECTION 351 TRANSACTIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If—

''(i) property is transferred by a transferor in any transaction which is described in subsection (a) and which is not described in paragraph (1) of this subsection, and

''(ii) the transferee's aggregate adjusted bases of such property so transferred would (but for this paragraph) exceed the fair market value of such property immediately after such transaction,

then, notwithstanding subsection (a), the transferee's aggregate adjusted bases of the property so transferred shall not exceed the fair market value of such property immediately after such transaction.

''(B) ALLOCATION OF BASIS REDUCTION.—The aggregate reduction in basis by reason of subparagraph (A) shall be allocated among the property so transferred in proportion to their respective built-in losses immediately before the transaction.

''(C) EXCEPTION FOR TRANSFERS WITHIN AFFILIATED GROUP.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any transaction if the transferor owns stock in the transferee meeting the requirements of section 1504(a)(2). In the case of property to which subparagraph (A) does not apply by reason of the preceding sentence, the transferor's basis in the stock received for such property shall not exceed its fair market value immediately after the transfer.''.

(b) COMPARABLE TREATMENT WHERE LIQUIDATION.—Paragraph (1) of section 334(b) (relating to liquidation of subsidiary) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If property is received by a corporate distributee in a distribution in a complete liquidation to which section 332 applies (or in a transfer described in section 337(b)(1)), the basis of such property in the hands of such distributee shall be the same as it would be in the hands of the transferor; except that the basis of such property in the hands of such distributee shall be the fair market value of the property at the time of the distribution—

''(A) in any case in which gain or loss is recognized by the liquidating corporation with respect to such property, or

''(B) in any case in which the liquidating corporation is a foreign corporation, the corporate distributee is a domestic corporation, and the corporate distributee's aggregate adjusted bases of property described in section 362(e)(1)(B) which is distributed in such liquidation would (but for this subparagraph) exceed the fair market value of such property immediately after such liquidation.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transactions after February 13, 2003.

SEC. 5642. NO REDUCTION OF BASIS UNDER SECTION 734 IN STOCK HELD BY PARTNERSHIP IN CORPORATE PARTNER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 755 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) NO ALLOCATION OF BASIS DECREASE TO STOCK OF CORPORATE PARTNER.—In making an allocation under subsection (a) of any decrease in the adjusted basis of partnership property under section 734(b)—

''(1) no allocation may be made to stock in a corporation (or any person which is related (within the meaning of section 267(b) or 707(b)(1)) to such corporation) which is a partner in the partnership, and

''(2) any amount not allocable to stock by reason of paragraph (1) shall be allocated under subsection (a) to other partnership property in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe.

Gain shall be recognized to the partnership to the extent that the amount required to be allocated under paragraph (2) to other partnership property exceeds the aggregate adjusted basis of such other property immediately before the allocation required by paragraph (2).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to distributions after February 13, 2003.

SEC. 5643. REPEAL OF SPECIAL RULES FOR FASITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part V of subchapter M of chapter 1 (relating to financial asset securitization investment trusts) is hereby repealed.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Paragraph (6) of section 56(g) is amended by striking ''REMIC, or FASIT'' and inserting ''or REMIC''.

(2) Clause (ii) of section 382(l)(4)(B) is amended by striking ''a REMIC to which part IV of subchapter M applies, or a FASIT to which part V of subchapter M applies,'' and inserting ''or a REMIC to which part IV of subchapter M applies,''.

(3) Paragraph (1) of section 582(c) is amended by striking '', and any regular interest in a FASIT,''.

(4) Subparagraph (E) of section 856(c)(5) is amended by striking the last sentence.

(5)(A) Section 860G(a)(1) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''An interest shall not fail to qualify as a regular interest solely because the specified principal amount of the regular interest (or the amount of interest accrued on the regular interest) can be reduced as a result of the nonoccurrence of 1 or more contingent payments with respect to any reverse mortgage loan held by the REMIC if, on the startup day for the REMIC, the sponsor reasonably believes that all principal and interest due under the regular interest will be paid at or prior to the liquidation of the REMIC.''.

(B) The last sentence of section 860G(a)(3) is amended by inserting '', and any reverse mortgage loan (and each balance increase on such loan meeting the requirements of subparagraph (A)(iii)) shall be treated as an obligation secured by an interest in real property'' before the period at the end.

(6) Paragraph (3) of section 860G(a) is amended by adding ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (B), by striking '', and'' at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting a period, and by striking subparagraph (D).

(7) Section 860G(a)(3), as amended by paragraph (6), is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''For purposes of subparagraph (A), if more than 50 percent of the obligations transferred to, or purchased by, the REMIC are originated by the United States or any State (or any political subdivision, agency, or instrumentality of the United States or any State) and are principally secured by an interest in real property, then each obligation transferred to, or purchased by, the REMIC shall be treated as secured by an interest in real property.''.

(8)(A) Section 860G(a)(3)(A) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of clause (i), by inserting ''or'' at the end of clause (ii), and by inserting after clause (ii) the following new clause:

''(iii) represents an increase in the principal amount under the original terms of an obligation described in clause (i) or (ii) if such increase—

''(I) is attributable to an advance made to the obligor pursuant to the original terms of the obligation,

''(II) occurs after the startup day, and

''(III) is purchased by the REMIC pursuant to a fixed price contract in effect on the startup day.''.

(B) Section 860G(a)(7)(B) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) QUALIFIED RESERVE FUND.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term 'qualified reserve fund' means any reasonably required reserve to—

''(i) provide for full payment of expenses of the REMIC or amounts due on regular interests in the event of defaults on qualified mortgages or lower than expected returns on cash flow investments, or

''(ii) provide a source of funds for the purchase of obligations described in clause (ii) or (iii) of paragraph (3)(A).

The aggregate fair market value of the assets held in any such reserve shall not exceed 50 percent of the aggregate fair market value of all of the assets of the REMIC on the startup day, and the amount of any such reserve shall be promptly and appropriately reduced to the extent the amount held in such reserve is no longer reasonably required for purposes specified in clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (3)(A).''.

(9) Subparagraph (C) of section 1202(e)(4) is amended by striking ''REMIC, or FASIT'' and inserting ''or REMIC''.

(10) Clause (xi) of section 7701(a)(19)(C) is amended—

(A) by striking ''and any regular interest in a FASIT,'', and

(B) by striking ''or FASIT'' each place it appears.

(11) The table of parts for subchapter M of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to part V.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall take effect on February 14, 2003.

(2) EXCEPTION FOR EXISTING FASITS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any FASIT in existence on the date of the enactment of this Act to the extent that regular interests issued by the FASIT before such date continue to remain outstanding in accordance with the original terms of issuance.

SEC. 5644. EXPANDED DISALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION FOR INTEREST ON CONVERTIBLE DEBT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 163(l) is amended by striking ''or a related party'' and inserting ''or equity held by the issuer (or any related party) in any other person''.

(b) CAPITALIZATION ALLOWED WITH RESPECT TO EQUITY OF PERSONS OTHER THAN ISSUER AND RELATED PARTIES.—Section 163(l) is amended by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (5) and (6) and by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph:

''(4) CAPITALIZATION ALLOWED WITH RESPECT TO EQUITY OF PERSONS OTHER THAN ISSUER AND RELATED PARTIES.—If the disqualified debt instrument of a corporation is payable in equity held by the issuer (or any related party) in any other person (other than a related party), the basis of such equity shall be increased by the amount not allowed as a deduction by reason of paragraph (1) with respect to the instrument.''.

(c) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN INSTRUMENTS ISSUED BY DEALERS IN SECURITIES.—Section 163(l), as amended by subsection (b), is amended by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (6) and (7) and by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:

''(5) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN INSTRUMENTS ISSUED BY DEALERS IN SECURITIES.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'disqualified debt instrument' does not include indebtedness issued by a dealer in securities (or a related party) which is payable in, or by reference to, equity (other than equity of the issuer or a related party) held by such dealer in its capacity as a dealer in securities. For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'dealer in securities' has the meaning given such term by section 475.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Paragraph (3) of section 163(l) is amended—

(1) by striking ''or a related party'' in the material preceding subparagraph (A) and inserting ''or any other person'', and

(2) by striking ''or interest'' each place it appears.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to debt instruments issued after February 13, 2003.

SEC. 5645. EXPANDED AUTHORITY TO DISALLOW TAX BENEFITS UNDER SECTION 269.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 269 (relating to acquisitions made to evade or avoid income tax) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—If—

''(1)(A) any person or persons acquire, directly or indirectly, control of a corporation, or

''(B) any corporation acquires, directly or indirectly, property of another corporation and the basis of such property, in the hands of the acquiring corporation, is determined by reference to the basis in the hands of the transferor corporation, and

''(2) the principal purpose for which such acquisition was made is evasion or avoidance of Federal income tax,

then the Secretary may disallow such deduction, credit, or other allowance. For purposes of paragraph (1)(A), control means the ownership of stock possessing at least 50 percent of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock entitled to vote or at least 50 percent of the total value of all shares of all classes of stock of the corporation.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to stock and property acquired after February 13, 2003.

SEC. 5646. MODIFICATION OF INTERACTION BETWEEN SUBPART F AND PASSIVE FOREIGN INVESTMENT COMPANY RULES.

(a) LIMITATION ON EXCEPTION FROM PFIC RULES FOR UNITED STATES SHAREHOLDERS OF CONTROLLED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.—Paragraph (2) of section 1297(e) (relating to passive foreign investment company) is amended by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

''Such term shall not include any period if the earning of subpart F income by such corporation during such period would result in only a remote likelihood of an inclusion in gross income under section 951(a)(1)(A)(i).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years of controlled foreign corporations beginning after February 13, 2003, and to taxable years of United States shareholders with or within which such taxable years of controlled foreign corporations end.

PART V—PROVISIONS TO DISCOURAGE EXPATRIATION

SEC. 5651. TAX TREATMENT OF INVERTED CORPORATE ENTITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter C of chapter 80 (relating to provisions affecting more than one subtitle) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 7874. RULES RELATING TO INVERTED CORPORATE ENTITIES.

''(a) INVERTED CORPORATIONS TREATED AS DOMESTIC CORPORATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If a foreign incorporated entity is treated as an inverted domestic corporation, then, notwithstanding section 7701(a)(4), such entity shall be treated for purposes of this title as a domestic corporation.

''(2) INVERTED DOMESTIC CORPORATION.—For purposes of this section, a foreign incorporated entity shall be treated as an inverted domestic corporation if, pursuant to a plan (or a series of related transactions)—

''(A) the entity completes after March 20, 2002, the direct or indirect acquisition of substantially all of the properties held directly or indirectly by a domestic corporation or substantially all of the properties constituting a trade or business of a domestic partnership,

''(B) after the acquisition at least 80 percent of the stock (by vote or value) of the entity is held—

''(i) in the case of an acquisition with respect to a domestic corporation, by former shareholders of the domestic corporation by reason of holding stock in the domestic corporation, or

''(ii) in the case of an acquisition with respect to a domestic partnership, by former partners of the domestic partnership by reason of holding a capital or profits interest in the domestic partnership, and

''(C) the expanded affiliated group which after the acquisition includes the entity does not have substantial business activities in the foreign country in which or under the law of which the entity is created or organized when compared to the total business activities of such expanded affiliated group.

Except as provided in regulations, an acquisition of properties of a domestic corporation shall not be treated as described in subparagraph (A) if none of the corporation's stock was readily tradeable on an established securities market at any time during the 4-year period ending on the date of the acquisition.

''(b) PRESERVATION OF DOMESTIC TAX BASE IN CERTAIN INVERSION TRANSACTIONS TO WHICH SUBSECTION (a) DOES NOT APPLY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If a foreign incorporated entity would be treated as an inverted domestic corporation with respect to an acquired entity if either—

''(A) subsection (a)(2)(A) were applied by substituting 'after December 31, 1996, and on or before March 20, 2002' for 'after March 20, 2002' and subsection (a)(2)(B) were applied by substituting 'more than 50 percent' for 'at least 80 percent', or

''(B) subsection (a)(2)(B) were applied by substituting 'more than 50 percent' for 'at least 80 percent',

then the rules of subsection (c) shall apply to any inversion gain of the acquired entity during the applicable period and the rules of subsection (d) shall apply to any related party transaction of the acquired entity during the applicable period. This subsection shall not apply for any taxable year if subsection (a) applies to such foreign incorporated entity for such taxable year.

''(2) ACQUIRED ENTITY.—For purposes of this section—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'acquired entity' means the domestic corporation or partnership substantially all of the properties of which are directly or indirectly acquired in an acquisition described in subsection (a)(2)(A) to which this subsection applies.

''(B) AGGREGATION RULES.—Any domestic person bearing a relationship described in section 267(b) or 707(b) to an acquired entity shall be treated as an acquired entity with respect to the acquisition described in subparagraph (A).

''(3) APPLICABLE PERIOD.—For purposes of this section—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'applicable period' means the period—

''(i) beginning on the first date properties are acquired as part of the acquisition described in subsection (a)(2)(A) to which this subsection applies, and

''(ii) ending on the date which is 10 years after the last date properties are acquired as part of such acquisition.

''(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR INVERSIONS OCCURRING BEFORE MARCH 21, 2002.—In the case of any acquired entity to which paragraph (1)(A) applies, the applicable period shall be the 10-year period beginning on January 1, 2003.

''(c) TAX ON INVERSION GAINS MAY NOT BE OFFSET.—If subsection (b) applies—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The taxable income of an acquired entity (or any expanded affiliated group which includes such entity) for any taxable year which includes any portion of the applicable period shall in no event be less than the inversion gain of the entity for the taxable year.

''(2) CREDITS NOT ALLOWED AGAINST TAX ON INVERSION GAIN.—Credits shall be allowed against the tax imposed by this chapter on an acquired entity for any taxable year described in paragraph (1) only to the extent such tax exceeds the product of—

''(A) the amount of the inversion gain for the taxable year, and

''(B) the highest rate of tax specified in section 11(b)(1).

For purposes of determining the credit allowed by section 901 inversion gain shall be treated as from sources within the United States.

''(3) SPECIAL RULES FOR PARTNERSHIPS.—In the case of an acquired entity which is a partnership—

''(A) the limitations of this subsection shall apply at the partner rather than the partnership level,

''(B) the inversion gain of any partner for any taxable year shall be equal to the sum of—

''(i) the partner's distributive share of inversion gain of the partnership for such taxable year, plus

''(ii) income or gain required to be recognized for the taxable year by the partner under section 367(a), 741, or 1001, or under any other provision of chapter 1, by reason of the transfer during the applicable period of any partnership interest of the partner in such partnership to the foreign incorporated entity, and

''(C) the highest rate of tax specified in the rate schedule applicable to the partner under chapter 1 shall be substituted for the rate of tax under paragraph (2)(B).

''(4) INVERSION GAIN.—For purposes of this section, the term 'inversion gain' means any income or gain required to be recognized under section 304, 311(b), 367, 1001, or 1248, or under any other provision of chapter 1, by reason of the transfer during the applicable period of stock or other properties by an acquired entity—

''(A) as part of the acquisition described in subsection (a)(2)(A) to which subsection (b) applies, or

''(B) after such acquisition to a foreign related person.

The Secretary may provide that income or gain from the sale of inventories or other transactions in the ordinary course of a trade or business shall not be treated as inversion gain under subparagraph (B) to the extent the Secretary determines such treatment would not be inconsistent with the purposes of this section.

''(5) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 172 AND MINIMUM TAX.—Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (3) and (4) of section 860E(a) shall apply for purposes of this section.

''(6) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The statutory period for the assessment of any deficiency attributable to the inversion gain of any taxpayer for any pre-inversion year shall not expire before the expiration of 3 years from the date the Secretary is notified by the taxpayer (in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe) of the acquisition described in subsection (a)(2)(A) to which such gain relates and such deficiency may be assessed before the expiration of such 3-year period notwithstanding the provisions of any other law or rule of law which would otherwise prevent such assessment.

''(B) PRE-INVERSION YEAR.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term 'pre-inversion year' means any taxable year if—

''(i) any portion of the applicable period is included in such taxable year, and

''(ii) such year ends before the taxable year in which the acquisition described in subsection (a)(2)(A) is completed.

''(d) SPECIAL RULES APPLICABLE TO ACQUIRED ENTITIES TO WHICH SUBSECTION (B) APPLIES.—

''(1) INCREASES IN ACCURACY-RELATED PENALTIES.—In the case of any underpayment of tax of an acquired entity to which subsection (b) applies—

''(A) section 6662(a) shall be applied with respect to such underpayment by substituting '30 percent' for '20 percent', and

''(B) if such underpayment is attributable to one or more gross valuation understatements, the increase in the rate of penalty under section 6662(h) shall be to 50 percent rather than 40 percent.

''(2) MODIFICATIONS OF LIMITATION ON INTEREST DEDUCTION.—In the case of an acquired entity to which subsection (b) applies, section 163(j) shall be applied—

''(A) without regard to paragraph (2)(A)(ii) thereof, and

''(B) by substituting '25 percent' for '50 percent' each place it appears in paragraph (2)(B) thereof.

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

''(1) RULES FOR APPLICATION OF SUBSECTION (a)(2).—In applying subsection (a)(2) for purposes of subsections (a) and (b), the following rules shall apply:

''(A) CERTAIN STOCK DISREGARDED.—There shall not be taken into account in determining ownership for purposes of subsection (a)(2)(B)—

''(i) stock held by members of the expanded affiliated group which includes the foreign incorporated entity, or

''(ii) stock of such entity which is sold in a public offering or private placement related to the acquisition described in subsection (a)(2)(A).

''(B) PLAN DEEMED IN CERTAIN CASES.—If a foreign incorporated entity acquires directly or indirectly substantially all of the properties of a domestic corporation or partnership during the 4-year period beginning on the date which is 2 years before the ownership requirements of subsection (a)(2)(B) are met with respect to such domestic corporation or partnership, such actions shall be treated as pursuant to a plan.

''(C) CERTAIN TRANSFERS DISREGARDED.—The transfer of properties or liabilities (including by contribution or distribution) shall be disregarded if such transfers are part of a plan a principal purpose of which is to avoid the purposes of this section.

''(D) SPECIAL RULE FOR RELATED PARTNERSHIPS.—For purposes of applying subsection (a)(2) to the acquisition of a domestic partnership, except as provided in regulations, all partnerships which are under common control (within the meaning of section 482) shall be treated as 1 partnership.

''(E) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN RIGHTS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary—

''(i) to treat warrants, options, contracts to acquire stock, convertible debt instruments, and other similar interests as stock, and

''(ii) to treat stock as not stock.

''(2) EXPANDED AFFILIATED GROUP.—The term 'expanded affiliated group' means an affiliated group as defined in section 1504(a) but without regard to section 1504(b)(3), except that section 1504(a) shall be applied by substituting 'more than 50 percent' for 'at least 80 percent' each place it appears.

''(3) FOREIGN INCORPORATED ENTITY.—The term 'foreign incorporated entity' means any entity which is, or but for subsection (a)(1) would be, treated as a foreign corporation for purposes of this title.

''(4) FOREIGN RELATED PERSON.—The term 'foreign related person' means, with respect to any acquired entity, a foreign person which—

''(A) bears a relationship to such entity described in section 267(b) or 707(b), or

''(B) is under the same common control (within the meaning of section 482) as such entity.

''(5) SUBSEQUENT ACQUISITIONS BY UNRELATED DOMESTIC CORPORATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to such conditions, limitations, and exceptions as the Secretary may prescribe, if, after an acquisition described in subsection (a)(2)(A) to which subsection (b) applies, a domestic corporation stock of which is traded on an established securities market acquires directly or indirectly any properties of one or more acquired entities in a transaction with respect to which the requirements of subparagraph (B) are met, this section shall cease to apply to any such acquired entity with respect to which such requirements are met.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements of the subparagraph are met with respect to a transaction involving any acquisition described in subparagraph (A) if—

''(i) before such transaction the domestic corporation did not have a relationship described in section 267(b) or 707(b), and was not under common control (within the meaning of section 482), with the acquired entity, or any member of an expanded affiliated group including such entity, and

''(ii) after such transaction, such acquired entity—

''(I) is a member of the same expanded affiliated group which includes the domestic corporation or has such a relationship or is under such common control with any member of such group, and

''(II) is not a member of, and does not have such a relationship and is not under such common control with any member of, the expanded affiliated group which before such acquisition included such entity.

''(f) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall provide such regulations as are necessary to carry out this section, including regulations providing for such adjustments to the application of this section as are necessary to prevent the avoidance of the purposes of this section, including the avoidance of such purposes through—

''(1) the use of related persons, pass-thru or other noncorporate entities, or other intermediaries, or

''(2) transactions designed to have persons cease to be (or not become) members of expanded affiliated groups or related persons.''.

(b) INFORMATION REPORTING.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall exercise the Secretary's authority under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require entities involved in transactions to which section 7874 of such Code (as added by subsection (a)) applies to report to the Secretary, shareholders, partners, and such other persons as the Secretary may prescribe such information as is necessary to ensure the proper tax treatment of such transactions.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subchapter C of chapter 80 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 7874. Rules relating to inverted corporate entities.''.

(d) TRANSITION RULE FOR CERTAIN REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES AND UNIT INVESTMENT TRUSTS.—Notwithstanding section 7874 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by subsection (a)), a regulated investment company, or other pooled fund or trust specified by the Secretary of the Treasury, may elect to recognize gain by reason of section 367(a) of such Code with respect to a transaction under which a foreign incorporated entity is treated as an inverted domestic corporation under section 7874(a) of such Code by reason of an acquisition completed after March 20, 2002, and before January 1, 2004.

SEC. 5652. IMPOSITION OF MARK-TO-MARKET TAX ON INDIVIDUALS WHO EXPATRIATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part II of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after section 877 the following new section:

''SEC. 877A. TAX RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXPATRIATION.

''(a) GENERAL RULES.—For purposes of this subtitle—

''(1) MARK TO MARKET.—Except as provided in subsections (d) and (f), all property of a covered expatriate to whom this section applies shall be treated as sold on the day before the expatriation date for its fair market value.

''(2) RECOGNITION OF GAIN OR LOSS.—In the case of any sale under paragraph (1)—

''(A) notwithstanding any other provision of this title, any gain arising from such sale shall be taken into account for the taxable year of the sale, and

''(B) any loss arising from such sale shall be taken into account for the taxable year of the sale to the extent otherwise provided by this title, except that section 1091 shall not apply to any such loss.

Proper adjustment shall be made in the amount of any gain or loss subsequently realized for gain or loss taken into account under the preceding sentence.

''(3) EXCLUSION FOR CERTAIN GAIN.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount which, but for this paragraph, would be includible in the gross income of any individual by reason of this section shall be reduced (but not below zero) by $600,000. For purposes of this paragraph, allocable expatriation gain taken into account under subsection (f)(2) shall be treated in the same manner as an amount required to be includible in gross income.

''(B) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an expatriation date occurring in any calendar year after 2004, the $600,000 amount under subparagraph (A) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

''(I) such dollar amount, multiplied by

''(II) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for such calendar year, determined by substituting 'calendar year 2003' for 'calendar year 1992' in subparagraph (B) thereof.

''(ii) ROUNDING RULES.—If any amount after adjustment under clause (i) is not a multiple of $1,000, such amount shall be rounded to the next lower multiple of $1,000.

''(4) ELECTION TO CONTINUE TO BE TAXED AS UNITED STATES CITIZEN.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If a covered expatriate elects the application of this paragraph—

''(i) this section (other than this paragraph and subsection (i)) shall not apply to the expatriate, but

''(ii) in the case of property to which this section would apply but for such election, the expatriate shall be subject to tax under this title in the same manner as if the individual were a United States citizen.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to an individual unless the individual—

''(i) provides security for payment of tax in such form and manner, and in such amount, as the Secretary may require,

''(ii) consents to the waiver of any right of the individual under any treaty of the United States which would preclude assessment or collection of any tax which may be imposed by reason of this paragraph, and

''(iii) complies with such other requirements as the Secretary may prescribe.

''(C) ELECTION.—An election under subparagraph (A) shall apply to all property to which this section would apply but for the election and, once made, shall be irrevocable. Such election shall also apply to property the basis of which is determined in whole or in part by reference to the property with respect to which the election was made.

''(b) ELECTION TO DEFER TAX.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If the taxpayer elects the application of this subsection with respect to any property treated as sold by reason of subsection (a), the payment of the additional tax attributable to such property shall be postponed until the due date of the return for the taxable year in which such property is disposed of (or, in the case of property disposed of in a transaction in which gain is not recognized in whole or in part, until such other date as the Secretary may prescribe).

''(2) DETERMINATION OF TAX WITH RESPECT TO PROPERTY.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the additional tax attributable to any property is an amount which bears the same ratio to the additional tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year solely by reason of subsection (a) as the gain taken into account under subsection (a) with respect to such property bears to the total gain taken into account under subsection (a) with respect to all property to which subsection (a) applies.

''(3) TERMINATION OF POSTPONEMENT.—No tax may be postponed under this subsection later than the due date for the return of tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year which includes the date of death of the expatriate (or, if earlier, the time that the security provided with respect to the property fails to meet the requirements of paragraph (4), unless the taxpayer corrects such failure within the time specified by the Secretary).

''(4) SECURITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—No election may be made under paragraph (1) with respect to any property unless adequate security is provided to the Secretary with respect to such property.

''(B) ADEQUATE SECURITY.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), security with respect to any property shall be treated as adequate security if—

''(i) it is a bond in an amount equal to the deferred tax amount under paragraph (2) for the property, or

''(ii) the taxpayer otherwise establishes to the satisfaction of the Secretary that the security is adequate.

''(5) WAIVER OF CERTAIN RIGHTS.—No election may be made under paragraph (1) unless the taxpayer consents to the waiver of any right under any treaty of the United States which would preclude assessment or collection of any tax imposed by reason of this section.

''(6) ELECTIONS.—An election under paragraph (1) shall only apply to property described in the election and, once made, is irrevocable. An election may be made under paragraph (1) with respect to an interest in a trust with respect to which gain is required to be recognized under subsection (f)(1).

''(7) INTEREST.—For purposes of section 6601—

''(A) the last date for the payment of tax shall be determined without regard to the election under this subsection, and

''(B) section 6621(a)(2) shall be applied by substituting '5 percentage points' for '3 percentage points' in subparagraph (B) thereof.

''(c) COVERED EXPATRIATE.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the term 'covered expatriate' means an expatriate.

''(2) EXCEPTIONS.—An individual shall not be treated as a covered expatriate if—

''(A) the individual—

''(i) became at birth a citizen of the United States and a citizen of another country and, as of the expatriation date, continues to be a citizen of, and is taxed as a resident of, such other country, and

''(ii) has not been a resident of the United States (as defined in section 7701(b)(1)(A)(ii)) during the 5 taxable years ending with the taxable year during which the expatriation date occurs, or

''(B)(i) the individual's relinquishment of United States citizenship occurs before such individual attains age 18½, and

''(ii) the individual has been a resident of the United States (as so defined) for not more than 5 taxable years before the date of relinquishment.

''(d) EXEMPT PROPERTY; SPECIAL RULES FOR PENSION PLANS.—

''(1) EXEMPT PROPERTY.—This section shall not apply to the following:

''(A) UNITED STATES REAL PROPERTY INTERESTS.—Any United States real property interest (as defined in section 897(c)(1)), other than stock of a United States real property holding corporation which does not, on the day before the expatriation date, meet the requirements of section 897(c)(2).

''(B) SPECIFIED PROPERTY.—Any property or interest in property not described in subparagraph (A) which the Secretary specifies in regulations.

''(2) SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN RETIREMENT PLANS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If a covered expatriate holds on the day before the expatriation date any interest in a retirement plan to which this paragraph applies—

''(i) such interest shall not be treated as sold for purposes of subsection (a)(1), but

''(ii) an amount equal to the present value of the expatriate's nonforfeitable accrued benefit shall be treated as having been received by such individual on such date as a distribution under the plan.

''(B) TREATMENT OF SUBSEQUENT DISTRIBUTIONS.—In the case of any distribution on or after the expatriation date to or on behalf of the covered expatriate from a plan from which the expatriate was treated as receiving a distribution under subparagraph (A), the amount otherwise includible in gross income by reason of the subsequent distribution shall be reduced by the excess of the amount includible in gross income under subparagraph (A) over any portion of such amount to which this subparagraph previously applied.

''(C) TREATMENT OF SUBSEQUENT DISTRIBUTIONS BY PLAN.—For purposes of this title, a retirement plan to which this paragraph applies, and any person acting on the plan's behalf, shall treat any subsequent distribution described in subparagraph (B) in the same manner as such distribution would be treated without regard to this paragraph.

''(D) APPLICABLE PLANS.—This paragraph shall apply to—

''(i) any qualified retirement plan (as defined in section 4974(c)),

''(ii) an eligible deferred compensation plan (as defined in section 457(b)) of an eligible employer described in section 457(e)(1)(A), and

''(iii) to the extent provided in regulations, any foreign pension plan or similar retirement arrangements or programs.

''(e) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) EXPATRIATE.—The term 'expatriate' means—

''(A) any United States citizen who relinquishes citizenship, and

''(B) any long-term resident of the United States who—

''(i) ceases to be a lawful permanent resident of the United States (within the meaning of section 7701(b)(6)), or

''(ii) commences to be treated as a resident of a foreign country under the provisions of a tax treaty between the United States and the foreign country and who does not waive the benefits of such treaty applicable to residents of the foreign country.

''(2) EXPATRIATION DATE.—The term 'expatriation date' means—

''(A) the date an individual relinquishes United States citizenship, or

''(B) in the case of a long-term resident of the United States, the date of the event described in clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (1)(B).

''(3) RELINQUISHMENT OF CITIZENSHIP.—A citizen shall be treated as relinquishing United States citizenship on the earliest of—

''(A) the date the individual renounces such individual's United States nationality before a diplomatic or consular officer of the United States pursuant to paragraph (5) of section 349(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1481(a)(5)),

''(B) the date the individual furnishes to the United States Department of State a signed statement of voluntary relinquishment of United States nationality confirming the performance of an act of expatriation specified in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4) of section 349(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1481(a)(1)–(4)),

''(C) the date the United States Department of State issues to the individual a certificate of loss of nationality, or

''(D) the date a court of the United States cancels a naturalized citizen's certificate of naturalization.

Subparagraph (A) or (B) shall not apply to any individual unless the renunciation or voluntary relinquishment is subsequently approved by the issuance to the individual of a certificate of loss of nationality by the United States Department of State.

''(4) LONG-TERM RESIDENT.—The term 'long-term resident' has the meaning given to such term by section 877(e)(2).

''(f) SPECIAL RULES APPLICABLE TO BENEFICIARIES' INTERESTS IN TRUST.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), if an individual is determined under paragraph (3) to hold an interest in a trust on the day before the expatriation date—

''(A) the individual shall not be treated as having sold such interest,

''(B) such interest shall be treated as a separate share in the trust, and

''(C)(i) such separate share shall be treated as a separate trust consisting of the assets allocable to such share,

''(ii) the separate trust shall be treated as having sold its assets on the day before the expatriation date for their fair market value and as having distributed all of its assets to the individual as of such time, and

''(iii) the individual shall be treated as having recontributed the assets to the separate trust.

Subsection (a)(2) shall apply to any income, gain, or loss of the individual arising from a distribution described in subparagraph (C)(ii). In determining the amount of such distribution, proper adjustments shall be made for liabilities of the trust allocable to an individual's share in the trust.

''(2) SPECIAL RULES FOR INTERESTS IN QUALIFIED TRUSTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If the trust interest described in paragraph (1) is an interest in a qualified trust—

''(i) paragraph (1) and subsection (a) shall not apply, and

''(ii) in addition to any other tax imposed by this title, there is hereby imposed on each distribution with respect to such interest a tax in the amount determined under subparagraph (B).

''(B) AMOUNT OF TAX.—The amount of tax under subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be equal to the lesser of—

''(i) the highest rate of tax imposed by section 1(e) for the taxable year which includes the day before the expatriation date, multiplied by the amount of the distribution, or

''(ii) the balance in the deferred tax account immediately before the distribution determined without regard to any increases under subparagraph (C)(ii) after the 30th day preceding the distribution.

''(C) DEFERRED TAX ACCOUNT.—For purposes of subparagraph (B)(ii)—

''(i) OPENING BALANCE.—The opening balance in a deferred tax account with respect to any trust interest is an amount equal to the tax which would have been imposed on the allocable expatriation gain with respect to the trust interest if such gain had been included in gross income under subsection (a).

''(ii) INCREASE FOR INTEREST.—The balance in the deferred tax account shall be increased by the amount of interest determined (on the balance in the account at the time the interest accrues), for periods after the 90th day after the expatriation date, by using the rates and method applicable under section 6621 for underpayments of tax for such periods, except that section 6621(a)(2) shall be applied by substituting '5 percentage points' for '3 percentage points' in subparagraph (B) thereof.

''(iii) DECREASE FOR TAXES PREVIOUSLY PAID.—The balance in the tax deferred account shall be reduced—

''(I) by the amount of taxes imposed by subparagraph (A) on any distribution to the person holding the trust interest, and

''(II) in the case of a person holding a nonvested interest, to the extent provided in regulations, by the amount of taxes imposed by subparagraph (A) on distributions from the trust with respect to nonvested interests not held by such person.

''(D) ALLOCABLE EXPATRIATION GAIN.—For purposes of this paragraph, the allocable expatriation gain with respect to any beneficiary's interest in a trust is the amount of gain which would be allocable to such beneficiary's vested and nonvested interests in the trust if the beneficiary held directly all assets allocable to such interests.

''(E) TAX DEDUCTED AND WITHHELD.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The tax imposed by subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be deducted and withheld by the trustees from the distribution to which it relates.

''(ii) EXCEPTION WHERE FAILURE TO WAIVE TREATY RIGHTS.—If an amount may not be deducted and withheld under clause (i) by reason of the distributee failing to waive any treaty right with respect to such distribution—

''(I) the tax imposed by subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be imposed on the trust and each trustee shall be personally liable for the amount of such tax, and

''(II) any other beneficiary of the trust shall be entitled to recover from the distributee the amount of such tax imposed on the other beneficiary.

''(F) DISPOSITION.—If a trust ceases to be a qualified trust at any time, a covered expatriate disposes of an interest in a qualified trust, or a covered expatriate holding an interest in a qualified trust dies, then, in lieu of the tax imposed by subparagraph (A)(ii), there is hereby imposed a tax equal to the lesser of—

''(i) the tax determined under paragraph (1) as if the day before the expatriation date were the date of such cessation, disposition, or death, whichever is applicable, or

''(ii) the balance in the tax deferred account immediately before such date.

Such tax shall be imposed on the trust and each trustee shall be personally liable for the amount of such tax and any other beneficiary of the trust shall be entitled to recover from the covered expatriate or the estate the amount of such tax imposed on the other beneficiary.

''(G) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this paragraph—

''(i) QUALIFIED TRUST.—The term 'qualified trust' means a trust which is described in section 7701(a)(30)(E).

''(ii) VESTED INTEREST.—The term 'vested interest' means any interest which, as of the day before the expatriation date, is vested in the beneficiary.

''(iii) NONVESTED INTEREST.—The term 'nonvested interest' means, with respect to any beneficiary, any interest in a trust which is not a vested interest. Such interest shall be determined by assuming the maximum exercise of discretion in favor of the beneficiary and the occurrence of all contingencies in favor of the beneficiary.

''(iv) ADJUSTMENTS.—The Secretary may provide for such adjustments to the bases of assets in a trust or a deferred tax account, and the timing of such adjustments, in order to ensure that gain is taxed only once.

''(v) COORDINATION WITH RETIREMENT PLAN RULES.—This subsection shall not apply to an interest in a trust which is part of a retirement plan to which subsection (d)(2) applies.

''(3) DETERMINATION OF BENEFICIARIES' INTEREST IN TRUST.—

''(A) DETERMINATIONS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1).—For purposes of paragraph (1), a beneficiary's interest in a trust shall be based upon all relevant facts and circumstances, including the terms of the trust instrument and any letter of wishes or similar document, historical patterns of trust distributions, and the existence of and functions performed by a trust protector or any similar adviser.

''(B) OTHER DETERMINATIONS.—For purposes of this section—

''(i) CONSTRUCTIVE OWNERSHIP.—If a beneficiary of a trust is a corporation, partnership, trust, or estate, the shareholders, partners, or beneficiaries shall be deemed to be the trust beneficiaries for purposes of this section.

''(ii) TAXPAYER RETURN POSITION.—A taxpayer shall clearly indicate on its income tax return—

''(I) the methodology used to determine that taxpayer's trust interest under this section, and

''(II) if the taxpayer knows (or has reason to know) that any other beneficiary of such trust is using a different methodology to determine such beneficiary's trust interest under this section.

''(g) TERMINATION OF DEFERRALS, ETC.—In the case of any covered expatriate, notwithstanding any other provision of this title—

''(1) any period during which recognition of income or gain is deferred shall terminate on the day before the expatriation date, and

''(2) any extension of time for payment of tax shall cease to apply on the day before the expatriation date and the unpaid portion of such tax shall be due and payable at the time and in the manner prescribed by the Secretary.

''(h) IMPOSITION OF TENTATIVE TAX.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If an individual is required to include any amount in gross income under subsection (a) for any taxable year, there is hereby imposed, immediately before the expatriation date, a tax in an amount equal to the amount of tax which would be imposed if the taxable year were a short taxable year ending on the expatriation date.

''(2) DUE DATE.—The due date for any tax imposed by paragraph (1) shall be the 90th day after the expatriation date.

''(3) TREATMENT OF TAX.—Any tax paid under paragraph (1) shall be treated as a payment of the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year to which subsection (a) applies.

''(4) DEFERRAL OF TAX.—The provisions of subsection (b) shall apply to the tax imposed by this subsection to the extent attributable to gain includible in gross income by reason of this section.

''(i) SPECIAL LIENS FOR DEFERRED TAX AMOUNTS.—

''(1) IMPOSITION OF LIEN.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If a covered expatriate makes an election under subsection (a)(4) or (b) which results in the deferral of any tax imposed by reason of subsection (a), the deferred amount (including any interest, additional amount, addition to tax, assessable penalty, and costs attributable to the deferred amount) shall be a lien in favor of the United States on all property of the expatriate located in the United States (without regard to whether this section applies to the property).

''(B) DEFERRED AMOUNT.—For purposes of this subsection, the deferred amount is the amount of the increase in the covered expatriate's income tax which, but for the election under subsection (a)(4) or (b), would have occurred by reason of this section for the taxable year including the expatriation date.

''(2) PERIOD OF LIEN.—The lien imposed by this subsection shall arise on the expatriation date and continue until—

''(A) the liability for tax by reason of this section is satisfied or has become unenforceable by reason of lapse of time, or

''(B) it is established to the satisfaction of the Secretary that no further tax liability may arise by reason of this section.

''(3) CERTAIN RULES APPLY.—The rules set forth in paragraphs (1), (3), and (4) of section 6324A(d) shall apply with respect to the lien imposed by this subsection as if it were a lien imposed by section 6324A.

''(j) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section.''.

(b) INCLUSION IN INCOME OF GIFTS AND BEQUESTS RECEIVED BY UNITED STATES CITIZENS AND RESIDENTS FROM EXPATRIATES.—Section 102 (relating to gifts, etc. not included in gross income) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) GIFTS AND INHERITANCES FROM COVERED EXPATRIATES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall not exclude from gross income the value of any property acquired by gift, bequest, devise, or inheritance from a covered expatriate after the expatriation date. For purposes of this subsection, any term used in this subsection which is also used in section 877A shall have the same meaning as when used in section 877A.

''(2) EXCEPTIONS FOR TRANSFERS OTHERWISE SUBJECT TO ESTATE OR GIFT TAX.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any property if either—

''(A) the gift, bequest, devise, or inheritance is—

''(i) shown on a timely filed return of tax imposed by chapter 12 as a taxable gift by the covered expatriate, or

''(ii) included in the gross estate of the covered expatriate for purposes of chapter 11 and shown on a timely filed return of tax imposed by chapter 11 of the estate of the covered expatriate, or

''(B) no such return was timely filed but no such return would have been required to be filed even if the covered expatriate were a citizen or long-term resident of the United States.''.

(c) DEFINITION OF TERMINATION OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP.—Section 7701(a) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(48) TERMINATION OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—An individual shall not cease to be treated as a United States citizen before the date on which the individual's citizenship is treated as relinquished under section 877A(e)(3).

''(B) DUAL CITIZENS.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, subparagraph (A) shall not apply to an individual who became at birth a citizen of the United States and a citizen of another country.''.

(d) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISA OR ADMISSION TO UNITED STATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 212(a)(10)(E) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(10)(E)) is amended to read as follows:

''(E) FORMER CITIZENS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH EXPATRIATION REVENUE PROVISIONS.—Any alien who is a former citizen of the United States who relinquishes United States citizenship (within the meaning of section 877A(e)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) and who is not in compliance with section 877A of such Code (relating to expatriation).''.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 6103(l) (relating to disclosure of returns and return information for purposes other than tax administration) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(19) DISCLOSURE TO DENY VISA OR ADMISSION TO CERTAIN EXPATRIATES.—Upon written request of the Attorney General or the Attorney General's delegate, the Secretary shall disclose whether an individual is in compliance with section 877A (and if not in compliance, any items of noncompliance) to officers and employees of the Federal agency responsible for administering section 212(a)(10)(E) of the Immigration and Nationality Act solely for the purpose of, and to the extent necessary in, administering such section 212(a)(10)(E).''.

(B) SAFEGUARDS.—

(i) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—Paragraph (4) of section 6103(p) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by section 202(b)(2)(B) of the Trade Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–210; 116 Stat. 961), is amended by striking ''or (17)'' after ''any other person described in subsection (l)(16)'' each place it appears and inserting ''or (18)''.

(ii) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 6103(p)(4) (relating to safeguards), as amended by clause (i), is amended by striking ''or (18)'' after ''any other person described in subsection (l)(16)'' each place it appears and inserting ''(18), or (19)''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the amendments made by this subsection shall apply to individuals who relinquish United States citizenship on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—The amendments made by paragraph (2)(B)(i) shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by

section 202(b)(2)(B) of the Trade Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–210; 116 Stat. 961).

(e) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 877 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(g) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply to an expatriate (as defined in section 877A(e)) whose expatriation date (as so defined) occurs on or after February 2, 2004.''.

(2) Section 2107 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(f) APPLICATION.—This section shall not apply to any expatriate subject to section 877A.''.

(3) Section 2501(a)(3) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(F) APPLICATION.—This paragraph shall not apply to any expatriate subject to section 877A.''.

(4)(A) Paragraph (1) of section 6039G(d) is amended by inserting ''or 877A'' after ''section 877''.

(B) The second sentence of section 6039G(e) is amended by inserting ''or who relinquishes United States citizenship (within the meaning of section 877A(e)(3))'' after ''877(a))''.

(C) Section 6039G(f) is amended by inserting ''or 877A(e)(2)(B)'' after ''877(e)(1)''.

(f) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart A of part II of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 877 the following new item:

''Sec. 877A. Tax responsibilities of expatriation.''.

(g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to expatriates (within the meaning of section 877A(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this section) whose expatriation date (as so defined) occurs on or after February 2, 2004.

(2) GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.—Section 102(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by subsection (b)) shall apply to gifts and bequests received on or after February 2, 2004, from an individual or the estate of an individual whose expatriation date (as so defined) occurs after such date.

(3) DUE DATE FOR TENTATIVE TAX.—The due date under section 877A(h)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this section, shall in no event occur before the 90th day after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5653. EXCISE TAX ON STOCK COMPENSATION OF INSIDERS IN INVERTED CORPORATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D is amended by adding at the end the following new chapter:

''CHAPTER 48—STOCK COMPENSATION OF INSIDERS IN INVERTED CORPORATIONS

''Sec. 5000A. Stock compensation of insiders in inverted corporations entities.

''SEC. 5000A. STOCK COMPENSATION OF INSIDERS IN INVERTED CORPORATIONS.

''(a) IMPOSITION OF TAX.—In the case of an individual who is a disqualified individual with respect to any inverted corporation, there is hereby imposed on such person a tax equal to 20 percent of the value (determined under subsection (b)) of the specified stock compensation held (directly or indirectly) by or for the benefit of such individual or a member of such individual's family (as defined in section 267) at any time during the 12-month period beginning on the date which is 6 months before the inversion date.

''(b) VALUE.—For purposes of subsection (a)—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The value of specified stock compensation shall be—

''(A) in the case of a stock option (or other similar right) or any stock appreciation right, the fair value of such option or right, and

''(B) in any other case, the fair market value of such compensation.

''(2) DATE FOR DETERMINING VALUE.—The determination of value shall be made—

''(A) in the case of specified stock compensation held on the inversion date, on such date,

''(B) in the case of such compensation which is canceled during the 6 months before the inversion date, on the day before such cancellation, and

''(C) in the case of such compensation which is granted after the inversion date, on the date such compensation is granted.

''(c) TAX TO APPLY ONLY IF SHAREHOLDER GAIN RECOGNIZED.—Subsection (a) shall apply to any disqualified individual with respect to an inverted corporation only if gain (if any) on any stock in such corporation is recognized in whole or part by any shareholder by reason of the acquisition referred to in section 7874(a)(2)(A) (determined by substituting 'July 10, 2002' for 'March 20, 2002') with respect to such corporation.

''(d) EXCEPTION WHERE GAIN RECOGNIZED ON COMPENSATION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to—

''(1) any stock option which is exercised on the inversion date or during the 6-month period before such date and to the stock acquired in such exercise, if income is recognized under section 83 on or before the inversion date with respect to the stock acquired pursuant to such exercise, and

''(2) any specified stock compensation which is exercised, sold, exchanged, distributed, cashed out, or otherwise paid during such period in a transaction in which gain or loss is recognized in full.

''(e) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) DISQUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL.—The term 'disqualified individual' means, with respect to a corporation, any individual who, at any time during the 12-month period beginning on the date which is 6 months before the inversion date—

''(A) is subject to the requirements of section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 with respect to such corporation, or

''(B) would be subject to such requirements if such corporation were an issuer of equity securities referred to in such section.

''(2) INVERTED CORPORATION; INVERSION DATE.—

''(A) INVERTED CORPORATION.—The term 'inverted corporation' means any corporation to which subsection (a) or (b) of section 7874 applies determined—

''(i) by substituting 'July 10, 2002' for 'March 20, 2002' in section 7874(a)(2)(A), and

''(ii) without regard to subsection (b)(1)(A).

Such term includes any predecessor or successor of such a corporation.

''(B) INVERSION DATE.—The term 'inversion date' means, with respect to a corporation, the date on which the corporation first becomes an inverted corporation.

''(3) SPECIFIED STOCK COMPENSATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'specified stock compensation' means payment (or right to payment) granted by the inverted corporation (or by any member of the expanded affiliated group which includes such corporation) to any person in connection with the performance of services by a disqualified individual for such corporation or member if the value of such payment or right is based on (or determined by reference to) the value (or change in value) of stock in such corporation (or any such member).

''(B) EXCEPTIONS.—Such term shall not include—

''(i) any option to which part II of subchapter D of chapter 1 applies, or

''(ii) any payment or right to payment from a plan referred to in section 280G(b)(6).

''(4) EXPANDED AFFILIATED GROUP.—The term 'expanded affiliated group' means an affiliated group (as defined in section 1504(a) without regard to section 1504(b)(3)); except that section 1504(a) shall be applied by substituting 'more than 50 percent' for 'at least 80 percent' each place it appears.

''(f) SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) CANCELLATION OF RESTRICTION.—The cancellation of a restriction which by its terms will never lapse shall be treated as a grant.

''(2) PAYMENT OR REIMBURSEMENT OF TAX BY CORPORATION TREATED AS SPECIFIED STOCK COMPENSATION.—Any payment of the tax imposed by this section directly or indirectly by the inverted corporation or by any member of the expanded affiliated group which includes such corporation—

''(A) shall be treated as specified stock compensation, and

''(B) shall not be allowed as a deduction under any provision of chapter 1.

''(3) CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS IGNORED.—Whether there is specified stock compensation, and the value thereof, shall be determined without regard to any restriction other than a restriction which by its terms will never lapse.

''(4) PROPERTY TRANSFERS.—Any transfer of property shall be treated as a payment and any right to a transfer of property shall be treated as a right to a payment.

''(5) OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—For purposes of subtitle F, any tax imposed by this section shall be treated as a tax imposed by subtitle A.

''(g) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section.''.

(b) DENIAL OF DEDUCTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (6) of section 275(a) is amended by inserting ''48,'' after ''46,''.

(2) $1,000,000 LIMIT ON DEDUCTIBLE COMPENSATION REDUCED BY PAYMENT OF EXCISE TAX ON SPECIFIED STOCK COMPENSATION.—Paragraph (4) of section 162(m) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(G) COORDINATION WITH EXCISE TAX ON SPECIFIED STOCK COMPENSATION.—The dollar limitation contained in paragraph (1) with respect to any covered employee shall be reduced (but not below zero) by the amount of any payment (with respect to such employee) of the tax imposed by section 5000A directly or indirectly by the inverted corporation (as defined in such section) or by any member of the expanded affiliated group (as defined in such section) which includes such corporation.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The last sentence of section 3121(v)(2)(A) is amended by inserting before the period ''or to any specified stock compensation (as defined in section 5000A) on which tax is imposed by section 5000A''.

(2) The table of chapters for subtitle D is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Chapter 48. Stock compensation of insiders in inverted corporations.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on July 11, 2002; except that periods before such date shall not be taken into account in applying the periods in subsections (a) and (e)(1) of section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this section.

SEC. 5654. REINSURANCE OF UNITED STATES RISKS IN FOREIGN JURISDICTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 845(a) (relating to allocation in case of reinsurance agreement involving tax avoidance or evasion) is amended by striking ''source and character'' and inserting ''amount, source, or character''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to any risk reinsured after April 11, 2002.

Subtitle H—Additional Revenue Provisions

PART I—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 5671. EXTENSION OF IRS USER FEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7528(c) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2004'' and inserting ''September 30, 2013''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to requests after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5672. CLARIFICATION OF RULES FOR PAYMENT OF ESTIMATED TAX FOR CERTAIN DEEMED ASSET SALES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (13) of section 338(h) (relating to tax on deemed sale not taken into account for estimated tax purposes) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''The preceding sentence shall not apply with respect to a qualified stock purchase for which an election is made under paragraph (10).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to transactions occurring after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5673. PARTIAL PAYMENT OF TAX LIABILITY IN INSTALLMENT AGREEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) Section 6159(a) (relating to authorization of agreements) is amended—

(A) by striking ''satisfy liability for payment of'' and inserting ''make payment on'', and

(B) by inserting ''full or partial'' after ''facilitate''.

(2) Section 6159(c) (relating to Secretary required to enter into installment agreements in certain cases) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by inserting ''full'' before ''payment''.

(b) REQUIREMENT TO REVIEW PARTIAL PAYMENT AGREEMENTS EVERY TWO YEARS.—Section 6159, as amended by this Act, is amended by redesignating subsections (d), (e), and (f) as subsections (e), (f), and (g), respectively, and inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection:

''(d) SECRETARY REQUIRED TO REVIEW INSTALLMENT AGREEMENTS FOR PARTIAL COLLECTION EVERY TWO YEARS.—In the case of an agreement entered into by the Secretary under subsection (a) for partial collection of a tax liability, the Secretary shall review the agreement at least once every 2 years.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to agreements entered into on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

PART II—FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

SEC. 5675. TREATMENT OF STRIPPED INTERESTS IN BOND AND PREFERRED STOCK FUNDS, ETC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1286 (relating to tax treatment of stripped bonds) is amended by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g) and by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

''(f) TREATMENT OF STRIPPED INTERESTS IN BOND AND PREFERRED STOCK FUNDS, ETC.—In the case of an account or entity substantially all of the assets of which consist of bonds, preferred stock, or a combination thereof, the Secretary may by regulations provide that rules similar to the rules of this section and 305(e), as appropriate, shall apply to interests in such account or entity to which (but for this subsection) this section or section 305(e), as the case may be, would not apply.''.

(b) CROSS REFERENCE.—Subsection (e) of section 305 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) CROSS REFERENCE.—

''For treatment of stripped interests in certain accounts or entities holding preferred stock, see section 1286(f).''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to purchases and dispositions after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5676. APPLICATION OF EARNINGS STRIPPING RULES TO PARTNERSHIPS AND S CORPORATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 168(j) (relating to limitation on deduction for interest on certain indebtedness) is amended by redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (9) and by inserting after paragraph (7) the following new paragraph:

''(8) APPLICATION TO PARTNERSHIPS AND S CORPORATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—This subsection shall apply to partnerships and S corporations in the same manner as it applies to C corporations.

''(B) ALLOCATIONS TO CERTAIN CORPORATE PARTNERS.—If a C corporation is a partner in a partnership—

''(i) the corporation's allocable share of indebtedness and interest income of the partnership shall be taken into account in applying this subsection to the corporation, and

''(ii) if a deduction is not disallowed under this subsection with respect to any interest expense of the partnership, this subsection shall be applied separately in determining whether a deduction is allowable to the corporation with respect to the corporation's allocable share of such interest expense.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5677. RECOGNITION OF CANCELLATION OF INDEBTEDNESS INCOME REALIZED ON SATISFACTION OF DEBT WITH PARTNERSHIP INTEREST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (8) of section 108(e) (relating to general rules for discharge of indebtedness (including discharges not in title 11 cases or insolvency)) is amended to read as follows:

''(8) INDEBTEDNESS SATISFIED BY CORPORATE STOCK OR PARTNERSHIP INTEREST.—For purposes of determining income of a debtor from discharge of indebtedness, if—

''(A) a debtor corporation transfers stock, or

''(B) a debtor partnership transfers a capital or profits interest in such partnership,

to a creditor in satisfaction of its recourse or nonrecourse indebtedness, such corporation or partnership shall be treated as having satisfied the indebtedness with an amount of money equal to the fair market value of the stock or interest. In the case of any partnership, any discharge of indebtedness income recognized under this paragraph shall be included in the distributive shares of taxpayers which were the partners in the partnership immediately before such discharge.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply with respect to cancellations of indebtedness occurring on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5678. MODIFICATION OF STRADDLE RULES.

(a) RULES RELATING TO IDENTIFIED STRADDLES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 1092(a)(2) (relating to special rule for identified straddles) is amended to read as follows:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any straddle which is an identified straddle—

''(i) paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to identified positions comprising the identified straddle,

''(ii) if there is any loss with respect to any identified position of the identified straddle, the basis of each of the identified offsetting positions in the identified straddle shall be increased by an amount which bears the same ratio to the loss as the unrecognized gain with respect to such offsetting position bears to the aggregate unrecognized gain with respect to all such offsetting positions, and

''(iii) any loss described in clause (ii) shall not otherwise be taken into account for purposes of this title.''.

(2) IDENTIFIED STRADDLE.—Section 1092(a)(2)(B) (defining identified straddle) is amended—

(A) by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following:

''(ii) to the extent provided by regulations, the value of each position of which (in the hands of the taxpayer immediately before the creation of the straddle) is not less than the basis of such position in the hands of the taxpayer at the time the straddle is created, and'', and

(B) by adding at the end the following new flush sentence:

''The Secretary shall prescribe regulations which specify the proper methods for clearly identifying a straddle as an identified straddle (and the positions comprising such straddle), which specify the rules for the application of this section for a taxpayer which fails to properly identify the positions of an identified straddle, and which specify the ordering rules in cases where a taxpayer disposes of less than an entire position which is part of an identified straddle.''.

(3) UNRECOGNIZED GAIN.—Section 1092(a)(3) (defining unrecognized gain) is amended by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C) and by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

''(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR IDENTIFIED STRADDLES.—For purposes of paragraph (2)(A)(ii), the unrecognized gain with respect to any identified offsetting position shall be the excess of the fair market value of the position at the time of the determination over the fair market value of the position at the time the taxpayer identified the position as a position in an identified straddle.''

(4) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1092(c)(2) is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

(b) PHYSICALLY SETTLED POSITIONS.—Section 1092(d) (relating to definitions and special rules) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) SPECIAL RULES FOR PHYSICALLY SETTLED POSITIONS.—For purposes of subsection (a), if a taxpayer settles a position which is part of a straddle by delivering property to which the position relates (and such position, if terminated, would result in a realization of a loss), then such taxpayer shall be treated as if such taxpayer—

''(A) terminated the position for its fair market value immediately before the settlement, and

''(B) sold the property so delivered by the taxpayer at its fair market value.''.

(c) REPEAL OF STOCK EXCEPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1092(d)(3) is repealed.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1258(d)(1) is amended by striking ''; except that the term 'personal property' shall include stock''.

(d) REPEAL OF QUALIFIED COVERED CALL EXCEPTION.—Section 1092(c)(4) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(I) TERMINATION.—This paragraph shall not apply to any position established on or after the date of the enactment of this subparagraph.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to positions established on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5679. DENIAL OF INSTALLMENT SALE TREATMENT FOR ALL READILY TRADEABLE DEBT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 453(f)(4)(B) (relating to purchaser evidences of indebtedness payable on demand or readily tradeable) is amended by striking ''is issued by a corporation or a government or political subdivision thereof and''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to sales occurring on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

PART III—CORPORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

SEC. 5680. MODIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF TRANSFERS TO CREDITORS IN DIVISIVE REORGANIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 361(b)(3) (relating to treatment of transfers to creditors) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''In the case of a reorganization described in section 368(a)(1)(D) with respect to which stock or securities of the corporation to which

the assets are transferred are distributed in a transaction which qualifies under section 355, this paragraph shall apply only to the extent that the sum of the money and the fair market value of other property transferred to such creditors does not exceed the adjusted bases of such assets transferred.''.

(b) LIABILITIES IN EXCESS OF BASIS.—Section 357(c)(1)(B) is amended by inserting ''with respect to which stock or securities of the corporation to which the assets are transferred are distributed in a transaction which qualifies under section 355'' after ''section 368(a)(1)(D)''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to transfers of money or other property, or liabilities assumed, in connection with a reorganization occurring on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5681. CLARIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF NONQUALIFIED PREFERRED STOCK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 351(g)(3)(A) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''Stock shall not be treated as participating in corporate growth to any significant extent unless there is a real and meaningful likelihood of the shareholder actually participating in the earnings and growth of the corporation.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to transactions after May 14, 2003.

SEC. 5682. MODIFICATION OF DEFINITION OF CONTROLLED GROUP OF CORPORATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1563(a)(2) (relating to brother-sister controlled group) is amended by striking ''possessing—'' and all that follows through ''(B)'' and inserting ''possessing''.

(b) APPLICATION OF EXISTING RULES TO OTHER CODE PROVISIONS.—Section 1563(f) (relating to other definitions and rules) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) BROTHER-SISTER CONTROLLED GROUP DEFINITION FOR PROVISIONS OTHER THAN THIS PART.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as specifically provided in an applicable provision, subsection (a)(2) shall be applied to an applicable provision as if it read as follows:

'(2) BROTHER-SISTER CONTROLLED GROUP.—Two or more corporations if 5 or fewer persons who are individuals, estates, or trusts own (within the meaning of subsection (d)(2) stock possessing—

'(A) at least 80 percent of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock entitled to vote, or at least 80 percent of the total value of shares of all classes of stock, of each corporation, and

'(B) more than 50 percent of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock entitled to vote or more than 50 percent of the total value of shares of all classes of stock of each corporation, taking into account the stock ownership of each such person only to the extent such stock ownership is identical with respect to each such corporation.'

''(B) APPLICABLE PROVISION.—For purposes of this paragraph, an applicable provision is any provision of law (other than this part) which incorporates the definition of controlled group of corporations under subsection (a).''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5683. MANDATORY BASIS ADJUSTMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH PARTNERSHIP DISTRIBUTIONS AND TRANSFERS OF PARTNERSHIP INTERESTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 754 is repealed.

(b) ADJUSTMENT TO BASIS OF UNDISTRIBUTED PARTNERSHIP PROPERTY.—Section 734 is amended—

(1) by striking '', with respect to which the election provided in section 754 is in effect,'' in the matter preceding paragraph (1) of subsection (b),

(2) by striking ''(as adjusted by section 732(d))'' both places it appears in subsection (b),

(3) by striking the last sentence of subsection (b),

(4) by striking subsection (a) and by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (a) and (b), respectively, and

*(5) by striking ''**OPTIONAL**'' in the heading.*

(c) ADJUSTMENT TO BASIS OF PARTNERSHIP PROPERTY.—Section 743 is amended—

(1) by striking ''with respect to which the election provided in section 754 is in effect'' in the matter preceding paragraph (1) of subsection (b),

(2) by striking subsection (a) and by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (a) and (b), respectively,

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) ELECTION TO ADJUST BASIS FOR TRANSFERS UPON DEATH OF PARTNER.—Subsection (a) shall not apply and no adjustments shall be made in the case of any transfer of an interest in a partnership upon the death of a partner unless an election to do so is made by the partnership. Such an election shall apply with respect to all such transfers of interests in the partnership. Any election under section 754 in effect on the date of the enactment of this subsection shall constitute an election made under this subsection. Such election may be revoked by the partnership, subject to such limitations as may be provided by regulations prescribed by the Secretary.'', and

*(4) by striking ''**OPTIONAL**'' in the heading.*

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (d) of section 732 is repealed.

(2) Section 755(a) is amended—

(A) by striking ''section 734(b) (relating to the optional adjustment'' and inserting ''section 734(a) (relating to the adjustment'', and

(B) by striking ''section 743(b) (relating to the optional adjustment'' and inserting ''section 743(a) (relating to the adjustment''.

(3) Section 761(e)(2) is amended by striking ''optional''.

(4) Section 774(a) is amended by striking ''743(b)'' both places it appears and inserting ''743(a)''.

(5) The item relating to section 734 in the table of sections for subpart B of part II of subchapter K of chapter 1 is amended by striking ''Optional''.

(6) The item relating to section 743 in the table of sections for subpart C of part II of subchapter K of chapter 1 is amended by striking ''Optional''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to transfers and distributions made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) REPEAL OF SECTION 732(d).—The amendments made by subsections (b)(2) and (d)(1) shall apply to—

(A) except as provided in subparagraph (B), transfers made after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

(B) in the case of any transfer made on or before such date to which section 732(d) applies, distributions made after the date which is 2 years after such date of enactment.

SEC. 5684. CLASS LIVES FOR UTILITY GRADING COSTS.

(a) GAS UTILITY PROPERTY.—Section 168(e)(3)(E) (defining 15-year property) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (ii), by striking the period at the end of clause (iii) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iv) initial clearing and grading land improvements with respect to gas utility property.''.

(b) ELECTRIC UTILITY PROPERTY.—Section 168(e)(3) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(F) 20-YEAR PROPERTY.—The term '20-year property' means initial clearing and grading land improvements with respect to any electric utility transmission and distribution plant.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The table contained in section 168(g)(3)(B) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''or (E)(iv)'' after ''(E)(iii)'', and

(2) by adding at the end the following new item:

''(F) ..... 25''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5685. CONSISTENT AMORTIZATION OF PERIODS FOR INTANGIBLES.

(a) START-UP EXPENDITURES.—

(1) ALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION.—Paragraph (1) of section 195(b) (relating to start-up expenditures) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) ALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION.—If a taxpayer elects the application of this subsection with respect to any start-up expenditures—

''(A) the taxpayer shall be allowed a deduction for the taxable year in which the active trade or business begins in an amount equal to the lesser of—

''(i) the amount of start-up expenditures with respect to the active trade or business, or

''(ii) $5,000, reduced (but not below zero) by the amount by which such start-up expenditures exceed $50,000, and

''(B) the remainder of such start-up expenditures shall be allowed as a deduction ratably over the 180-month period beginning with the month in which the active trade or business begins.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (b) of section 195 is amended by striking ''AMORTIZE'' and inserting ''DEDUCT'' in the heading.

(b) ORGANIZATIONAL EXPENDITURES.—Subsection (a) of section 248 (relating to organizational expenditures) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) ELECTION TO DEDUCT.—If a corporation elects the application of this subsection (in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary) with respect to any organizational expenditures—

''(1) the corporation shall be allowed a deduction for the taxable year in which the corporation begins business in an amount equal to the lesser of—

''(A) the amount of organizational expenditures with respect to the taxpayer, or

''(B) $5,000, reduced (but not below zero) by the amount by which such organizational expenditures exceed $50,000, and

''(2) the remainder of such organizational expenditures shall be allowed as a deduction ratably over the 180-month period beginning with the month in which the corporation begins business.''.

(c) TREATMENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL AND SYNDICATION FEES OF PARTNERSHIPS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 709(b) (relating to amortization of organization fees) is amended by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3) and by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) ALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION.—If a taxpayer elects the application of this subsection (in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary) with respect to any organizational expenses—

''(A) the taxpayer shall be allowed a deduction for the taxable year in which the partnership begins business in an amount equal to the lesser of—

''(i) the amount of organizational expenses with respect to the partnership, or

''(ii) $5,000, reduced (but not below zero) by the amount by which such organizational expenses exceed $50,000, and

''(B) the remainder of such organizational expenses shall be allowed as a deduction ratably over the 180-month period beginning with the month in which the partnership begins business.

''(2) DISPOSITIONS BEFORE CLOSE OF AMORTIZATION PERIOD.—In any case in which a partnership is liquidated before the end of the period

to which paragraph (1)(B) applies, any deferred expenses attributable to the partnership which were not allowed as a deduction by reason of this section may be deducted to the extent allowable under section 165.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (b) of section 709 is amended by striking ''AMORTIZATION'' and inserting ''DEDUCTION'' in the heading.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle I—Tax-Exempt Financing of Highway Projects and Rail-Truck Transfer Facilities

SEC. 5691. TAX-EXEMPT FINANCING OF HIGHWAY PROJECTS AND RAIL-TRUCK TRANSFER FACILITIES.

(a) TREATMENT AS EXEMPT FACILITY BOND.—Subsection (a) of section 142 (relating to exempt facility bond) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of paragraph (12), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (13), and by adding at the end the following:

''(14) qualified highway facilities, or

''(15) qualified surface freight transfer facilities.''.

(b) QUALIFIED HIGHWAY FACILITIES AND QUALIFIED SURFACE FREIGHT TRANSFER FACILITIES.—Section 142 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(l) QUALIFIED HIGHWAY AND SURFACE FREIGHT TRANSFER FACILITIES.—

''(1) QUALIFIED HIGHWAY FACILITIES.—For purposes of subsection (a)(14), the term 'qualified highway facilities' means—

''(A) any surface transportation project which receives Federal assistance under title 23, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this subsection), or

''(B) any project for an international bridge or tunnel for which an international entity authorized under Federal or State law is responsible and which receives Federal assistance under such title 23.

''(2) QUALIFIED SURFACE FREIGHT TRANSFER FACILITIES.—For purposes of subsection (a)(15), the term 'qualified surface freight transfer facilities' means facilities for the transfer of freight from truck to rail or rail to truck (including any temporary storage facilities directly related to such transfers) which receives Federal assistance under either title 23 or title 49, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this subsection).

''(3) AGGREGATE FACE AMOUNT OF TAX-EXEMPT FINANCING FOR FACILITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—An issue shall not be treated as an issue described in subsection (a)(14) or (a)(15) if the aggregate face amount of bonds issued by any State pursuant thereto (when added to the aggregate face amount of bonds previously so issued) exceeds $15,000,000,000.

''(B) ALLOCATION BY SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall allocate the amount described in subparagraph (A) among eligible projects described in subsections (a)(14) and (a)(15) in such manner as the Secretary determines appropriate.''.

(c) EXEMPTION FROM GENERAL STATE VOLUME CAPS.—Paragraph (3) of section 146(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to exception for certain bonds) is amended by striking ''or (13)'' and all that follows through the end of the paragraph and inserting ''(13), (14), or (15) of section 142(a), and''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section apply to bonds issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5692. ADDITION OF VACCINES AGAINST HEPATITIS A TO LIST OF TAXABLE VACCINES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4132(a)(1) (defining taxable vaccine) is amended by redesignating subparagraphs (I), (J), (K), and (L) as subparagraphs (J), (K), (L), and (M), respectively, and by inserting after subparagraph (H) the following new subparagraph:

''(I) Any vaccine against hepatitis A.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 9510(c)(1)(A) is amended by striking ''October 18, 2000'' and inserting ''the date of the enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) SALES, ETC.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to sales and uses on or after the first day of the first month which begins more than 4 weeks after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) DELIVERIES.—For purposes of paragraph (1) and section 4131 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, in the case of sales on or before the effective date described in such paragraph for which delivery is made after such date, the delivery date shall be considered the sale date.

SEC. 5693. ADDITION OF VACCINES AGAINST INFLUENZA TO LIST OF TAXABLE VACCINES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4132(a)(1) (defining taxable vaccine), as amended by section 5692 of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(N) Any trivalent vaccine against influenza.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) SALES, ETC.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to sales and uses on or after the later of—

(A) the first day of the first month which begins more than 4 weeks after the date of the enactment of this Act, or

(B) the date on which the Secretary of Health and Human Services lists any vaccine against influenza for purposes of compensation for any vaccine-related injury or death through the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.

(2) DELIVERIES.—For purposes of paragraph (1) and section 4131 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, in the case of sales on or before the effective date described in such paragraph for which delivery is made after such date, the delivery date shall be considered the sale date.

SEC. 5694. EXTENSION OF AMORTIZATION OF INTANGIBLES TO SPORTS FRANCHISES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 197(e) (relating to exceptions to definition of section 197 intangible) is amended by striking paragraph (6) and by redesignating paragraphs (7) and (8) as paragraphs (6) and (7), respectively.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1)(A) Section 1056 (relating to basis limitation for player contracts transferred in connection with the sale of a franchise) is repealed.

(B) The table of sections for part IV of subchapter O of chapter 1 is amended by striking the item relating to section 1056.

(2) Section 1245(a) (relating to gain from disposition of certain depreciable property) is amended by striking paragraph (4).

(3) Section 1253 (relating to transfers of franchises, trademarks, and trade names) is amended by striking subsection (e).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to property acquired after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) SECTION 1245.—The amendment made by subsection (b)(2) shall apply to franchises acquired after the date of the enactment of this Act.

TITLE VI—TRANSPORTATION DISCRETIONARY SPENDING GUARANTEE AND BUDGET OFFSETS

SEC. 6101. SENSE OF THE SENATE ON OVERALL FEDERAL BUDGET.

It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) comprehensive statutory budget enforcement measures, the jurisdiction of which lies with the Senate Budget Committee and Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, should—

(A) be enacted this year; and

(B) address all areas of the Federal budget, including discretionary spending, direct spending, and revenues; and

(2) special allocations for transportation or any other categories of spending should be considered in that context and be consistent with the rest of the Federal budget.

SEC. 6102. DISCRETIONARY SPENDING CATEGORIES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) HIGHWAY CATEGORY.—Section 250(c)(4)(B) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900(c)(4)(B)) is amended—

(A) by striking ''Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century'' and inserting ''Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(v) 69–8158–0–7–401 (Motor Carrier Safety Grants).

''(vi) 69–8159–0–7–401 (Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs).''.

(2) MASS TRANSIT CATEGORY.—Section 250(c)(4) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 900(c)(4)) is amended by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

''(C) MASS TRANSIT CATEGORY.—The term 'mass transit category' means the following budget accounts, or portions of the accounts, that are subject to the obligation limitations on contract authority provided in the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 or for which appropriations are provided in accordance with authorizations contained in that Act:

''(i) 69–1120–0–1–401 (Administrative Expenses).

''(ii) 69–1134–0–1–401 (Capital Investment Grants).

''(iii) 69–8191–0–7–401 (Discretionary Grants).

''(iv) 69–1129–0–1–401 (Formula Grants).

''(v) 69–8303–0–7–401 (Formula Grants and Research).

''(vi) 69–1127–0–1–401 (Interstate Transfer Grants—Transit).

''(vii) 69–1125–0–1–401 (Job Access and Reverse Commute).

''(viii) 69–1122–0–1–401 (Miscellaneous Expired Accounts).

''(ix) 69–1139–0–1–401 (Major Capital Investment Grants).

''(x) 69–1121–0–1–401 (Research, Training and Human Resources).

''(xi) 69–8350–0–7–401 (Trust Fund Share of Expenses).

''(xii) 69–1137–0–1–401 (Transit Planning and Research).

''(xiii) 69–1136–0–1–401 (University Transportation Research).

''(xiv) 69–1128–0–1–401 (Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority).''.

(b) HIGHWAY FUNDING REVENUE ALIGNMENT.—Section 251(b)(1)(B) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(1)(B)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i)—

(A) by inserting ''for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2009'' after ''submits the budget'';

(B) by inserting ''the obligation limitation and outlay limit for'' after ''adjustments to''; and

(C) by striking ''provided in clause (ii)(I)(cc).'' and inserting the following: ''follows:

''(I) OMB shall take the actual level of highway receipts for the year before the current year and subtract the sum of the estimated level of highway receipts in clause (iii), plus any amount previously calculated under clauses (i)(II) and (ii) for that year.

''(II) OMB shall take the current estimate of highway receipts for the current year and subtract the estimated level of highway receipts in clause (iii) for that year.

''(III) OMB shall—

''(aa) take the sum of the amounts calculated under subclauses (I) and (II) and add that amount to the obligation limitation set forth in section 6103 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 for the highway category for the budget year,

and calculate the outlay change resulting from that change in obligations relative to that amount for the budget year and each outyear using current estimates; and

''(bb) after making the calculation under item (aa), adjust the obligation limitation set forth in section 6103 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 for the budget year by adding the amount calculated under subclauses (I) and (II).'';

(2) by striking clause (ii) and inserting the following:

''(ii) When the President submits the supplementary budget estimates for each of fiscal years 2006 through 2009 under section 1106 of title 31, United States Code, OMB's Mid-Session Review shall include adjustments to the obligation limitation and outlay limit for the highway category for the budget year and each outyear as follows:

''(I) OMB shall take the most recent estimate of highway receipts for the current year (based on OMB's Mid-Session Review) and subtract the estimated level of highway receipts in clause (iii) plus any amount previously calculated and included in the President's Budget under clause (i)(II) for that year.

''(II) OMB shall—

''(aa) take the amount calculated under subclause (I) and add that amount to the amount of obligations set forth in section 6103 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 for the highway category for the budget year, and calculate the outlay change resulting from that change in obligations relative to that amount for the budget year and each outyear using current estimates; and

''(bb) after making the calculation under item (aa), adjust the amount of obligations set forth in section 6103 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004 for the budget year by adding the amount calculated under subclause (I).''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) The estimated level of highway receipts for the purpose of this subparagraph are—

''(I) for fiscal year 2004, $29,945,938,902;

''(II) for fiscal year 2005, $36,294,778,392;

''(III) for fiscal year 2006, $37,766,517,123;

''(IV) for fiscal year 2007, $38,795,061,111;

''(V) for fiscal year 2008, $39,832,795,606; and

''(VI) for fiscal year 2009, $40,964,722,457.

''(iv) In this subparagraph, the term ''highway receipts'' means the governmental receipts and interest credited to the highway account of the Highway Trust Fund.''.

(c) CONTINUATION OF SEPARATE SPENDING CATEGORIES.—For the purpose of section 251(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(c)), the discretionary spending limits for the highway category and the mass transit category shall be—

(1) for fiscal year 2004—

(A) $28,876,732,956 for the highway category; and

(B) $6,262,000,000 for the mass transit category;

(2) for fiscal year 2005—

(A) $31,991,246,160 for the highway category; and

(B) $6,903,000,000 for the mass transit category;

(3) for fiscal year 2006—

(A) $35,598,640,776 for the highway category; and

(B) $7,974,000,000 for the mass transit category;

(4) for fiscal year 2007—

(A) $37,871,760,938 for the highway category; and

(B) $8,658,000,000 for the mass transit category;

(5) for fiscal year 2008—

(A) $38,722,907,474 for the highway category; and

(B) $9,222,000,000 for the mass transit category; and

(6) for fiscal year 2009—

(A) $40,537,563,667 for the highway category; and

(B) $9,897,000,000 for the mass transit category.

(d) ADDITIONAL ADJUSTMENTS.—Section 251(b)(1) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) in clause (i), by striking ''fiscal years 2000, 2001, 2002, or 2003,'' and inserting ''each of fiscal years 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009,''; and

(B) in clause (ii), by striking ''2002 and 2003'' and inserting ''2008 and 2009''; and

(2) in subparagraph (D)—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) by striking ''1999'' and inserting ''2005'';

(ii) by striking ''2000 through 2003'' and inserting ''2006 through 2009''; and

(iii) by striking ''section 8103 of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century'' and inserting ''section 6102 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004''; and

(B) in clause (ii), by striking ''2000, 2001, 2002, or 2003'' and inserting ''2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009''.

SEC. 6103. LEVEL OF OBLIGATION LIMITATIONS.

(a) HIGHWAY CATEGORY.—For the purpose of section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)), the level of obligation limitations for the highway category is—

(1) for fiscal year 2004, $34,651,000,000;

(2) for fiscal year 2005, $38,927,000,000;

(3) for fiscal year 2006, $40,186,000,000;

(4) for fiscal year 2007, $40,229,000,000;

(5) for fiscal year 2008, $40,563,000,000; and

(6) for fiscal year 2009, $45,622,000,000.

(b) MASS TRANSIT CATEGORY.—For the purpose of section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)), the level of obligation limitations for the mass transit category is—

(1) for fiscal year 2004, $7,265,877,000;

(2) for fiscal year 2005, $8,650,000,000;

(3) for fiscal year 2006, $9,085,123,000;

(4) for fiscal year 2007, $9,600,000,000;

(5) for fiscal year 2008, $10,490,000,000; and

(6) for fiscal year 2009, $11,430,000,000.

For the purpose of this subsection, the term ''obligation limitations'' means the sum of budget authority and obligation limitations.

TITLE VII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 7001. REIMBURSEMENT OF CERTAIN TRANSPORTATION COSTS INCURRED BY MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES ON REST AND RECUPERATION LEAVE.

The Secretary of Defense shall reimburse a member of the United States Armed Forces (out of funds available for the Armed Forces for operation and maintenance for the relevant fiscal year) for transportation expenses incurred by such member for 1 round trip by such member between 2 locations within the United States in connection with leave taken under the Central Command Rest and Recuperation Leave Program during the period beginning on September 25, 2003, and ending on December 18, 2003.

TITLE VIII—SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

SEC. 8001. INCREASED USE OF RECOVERED MINERAL COMPONENT IN FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECTS INVOLVING PROCUREMENT OF CEMENT OR CONCRETE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle F of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6961 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 6005. INCREASED USE OF RECOVERED MINERAL COMPONENT IN FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECTS INVOLVING PROCUREMENT OF CEMENT OR CONCRETE.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) AGENCY HEAD.—The term 'agency head' means—

''(A) the Secretary of Transportation; and

''(B) the head of each other Federal agency that on a regular basis procures, or provides Federal funds to pay or assist in paying the cost of procuring, material for cement or concrete projects.

''(2) CEMENT OR CONCRETE PROJECT.—The term 'cement or concrete project' means a project for the construction or maintenance of a highway or other transportation facility or a Federal, State, or local government building or other public facility that—

''(A) involves the procurement of cement or concrete; and

''(B) is carried out in whole or in part using Federal funds.

''(3) RECOVERED MINERAL COMPONENT.—The term 'recovered mineral component' means—

''(A) ground granulated blast furnace slag;

''(B) coal combustion fly ash; and

''(C) any other waste material or byproduct recovered or diverted from solid waste that the Administrator, in consultation with an agency head, determines should be treated as recovered mineral component under this section for use in cement or concrete projects paid for, in whole or in part, by the agency head.

''(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator and each agency head shall take such actions as are necessary to implement fully all procurement requirements and incentives in effect as of the date of enactment of this section (including guidelines under section 6002) that provide for the use of cement and concrete incorporating recovered mineral component in cement or concrete projects.

''(2) PRIORITY.—In carrying out paragraph (1) an agency head shall give priority to achieving greater use of recovered mineral component in cement or concrete projects for which recovered mineral components historically have not been used or have been used only minimally.

''(3) CONFORMANCE.—The Administrator and each agency head shall carry out this subsection in accordance with section 6002.

''(c) FULL IMPLEMENTATION STUDY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, in cooperation with the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Energy, shall conduct a study to determine the extent to which current procurement requirements, when fully implemented in accordance with subsection (b), may realize energy savings and environmental benefits attainable with substitution of recovered mineral component in cement used in cement or concrete projects.

''(2) MATTERS TO BE ADDRESSED.—The study shall—

''(A) quantify the extent to which recovered mineral components are being substituted for Portland cement, particularly as a result of current procurement requirements, and the energy savings and environmental benefits associated with that substitution;

''(B) identify all barriers in procurement requirements to greater realization of energy savings and environmental benefits, including barriers resulting from exceptions from current law; and

''(C)(i) identify potential mechanisms to achieve greater substitution of recovered mineral component in types of cement or concrete projects for which recovered mineral components historically have not been used or have been used only minimally;

''(ii) evaluate the feasibility of establishing guidelines or standards for optimized substitution rates of recovered mineral component in those cement or concrete projects; and

''(iii) identify any potential environmental or economic effects that may result from greater substitution of recovered mineral component in those cement or concrete projects.

''(3) REPORT.—Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall submit to Congress a report on the study.

''(d) ADDITIONAL PROCUREMENT REQUIREMENTS.—Unless the study conducted under subsection (c) identifies any effects or other problems described in subsection (c)(2)(C)(iii) that warrant further review or delay, the Administrator and each agency head shall, not later than 1 year after the release of the report in accordance with subsection (c)(3), take additional actions authorized under this Act to establish procurement requirements and incentives that provide for the use of cement and concrete with increased substitution of recovered mineral component in the construction and maintenance of cement or concrete projects, so as to—

''(1) realize more fully the energy savings and environmental benefits associated with increased substitution; and

''(2) eliminate barriers identified under subsection (c).

''(e) EFFECT OF SECTION.—Nothing in this section affects the requirements of section 6002 (including the guidelines and specifications for implementing those requirements).''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1001 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. prec. 6901) is amended by adding after the item relating to section 6004 the following:

''Sec. 6005. Increased use of recovered mineral component in federally funded projects involving procurement of cement or concrete.''.

SEC. 8002. USE OF GRANULAR MINE TAILINGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle F of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6961 et seq.) (as amended by section 8001(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 6006. USE OF GRANULAR MINE TAILINGS.

''(a) MINE TAILINGS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation and heads of other Federal agencies, shall establish criteria (including an evaluation of whether to establish a numerical standard for concentration of lead and other hazardous substances) for the safe and environmentally protective use of granular mine tailings from the Tar Creek, Oklahoma Mining District, known as 'chat', for—

''(A) cement or concrete projects; and

''(B) transportation construction projects (including transportation construction projects involving the use of asphalt) that are carried out, in whole or in part, using Federal funds.

''(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In establishing criteria under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall consider—

''(A) the current and previous uses of granular mine tailings as an aggregate for asphalt; and

''(B) any environmental and public health risks and benefits derived from the removal, transportation, and use in transportation projects of granular mine tailings.

''(3) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.—In establishing the criteria under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall solicit and consider comments from the public.

''(4) APPLICABILITY OF CRITERIA.—On the establishment of the criteria under paragraph (1), any use of the granular mine tailings described in paragraph (1) in a transportation project that is carried out, in whole or in part, using Federal funds, shall meet the criteria established under paragraph (1).

''(b) EFFECT OF SECTIONS.—Nothing in this section or section 6005 affects any requirement of any law (including a regulation) in effect on the date of enactment of this section.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1001 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. prec. 6901) (as amended by section 8001(b)) is amended by adding after the item relating to section 6005 the following:

''Sec. 6006. Use of granular mine tailings.''.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I will be making a couple statements before we wrap up for this week and for this period of 5 weeks before the recess. But I do want to speak on two issues that are important. I want to state and restate some of the events of the last several days, the last several weeks, before leaving for this recess.

COMMENDING SECRETARY RUMSFELD

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, first of all, I want to make some comments on the issue of the Abu Ghraib abuses and the role of Secretary Rumsfeld and some of the statements that he has made, but also the tremendous leadership he has given over the last several weeks in what have been very difficult times for us as a nation, as we have witnessed, through both report and visual images, the occurrences that happened at Abu Ghraib prison.

First and foremost, I thank the Secretary for, ever since these abuses became apparent, being available to us in the Senate, the appropriate committees, and providing the appropriate resources and personnel to keep us informed of the abuses, the response to the abuses, and the many investigations that are underway.

Yesterday, Secretary Rumsfeld came to the Capitol for an all-Senators briefing on Iraq, and with him were a number of the generals and other men and women in our Armed Forces to help us better understand the events as they have unfolded over the last several weeks and months. The Secretary, as always, was forthright and direct and complete, sharing with us everything that was known, and being very clear that there is, at any point in time, a lot that is not known that will hopefully soon be known.

He addressed a whole range of issues, in particular our efforts to secure peace, to fight boldly in this war on terror, and also shared with us his views, his observations, on the Army's investigation of the Abu Ghraib abuses. He reiterated again and again his absolute commitment to thorough and complete and timely investigations. For that, we thank him.

Secretary Rumsfeld has appointed, also, an independent panel to review allegations of abuse at the DOD detention facilities. This particular panel will also review other matters related to detention operations. The panel consists of four individuals who have been involved in public service in the past. I believe all those names have been announced publicly. These experts will provide an independent and professional analysis to the Secretary, and they will make recommendations to address any problems they identify. I had the opportunity to talk to several members of this panel, and I look forward to their report and bringing together many of the other reports that are currently underway.

Secretary Rumsfeld has made it very clear that all DOD, Department of Defense, agencies and the military services will be cooperating with this panel. The panel was to begin its work on May 20 and will report its findings in early July. That report will be shared with all of us in the Senate and throughout the Defense Department.

As I said, Secretary Rumsfeld is displaying tremendous leadership. He is devoting, rightly so, a huge amount of time and resources to make sure that we, the American people, and the world get all the facts; that everything is transparent; that those people who are guilty are brought both to trial and punished appropriately. That is the American way. He made it clear that he is seeing that that is being done.

He is committed to preventing such abuses and such incidents from ever happening in the future. I know the Secretary's resolve, and he has expressed that to the Senate.

Secretary Rumsfeld has proven himself over and over again, through a long and distinguished career, to be a man of great integrity and results. We, as a nation, express our gratitude to him.

These are difficult times for all Americans. The abuses at the Abu Ghraib prison continue to shock us—the photographs, the fact that such incidents, that we would have never thought possible, actually did occur. For some, the ugly behavior of a few made them question our overall mission in Iraq and fighting this war on terror. But while all this is going on we should not lose hope, we cannot lose hope, and we must not lose sight of that big picture.

The vast majority of our troops—and, again, over 130,000 men and women are fighting for us overseas right now—the overwhelming majority of those troops are serving us each and every day with courage and with honor, of which we are all very proud. And we need to send that message to our troops. We do not say it nearly enough. And now is the time for us to do so, when the world is focused so much on the abuses, terrible abuses, caused by these very few people.

The men and women overseas, every day, are improving the lives of Iraqis, of citizens throughout that country. They are bringing freedom. They are fighting for freedom. They are sacrificing for the freedom of the Iraqi people who have lived under merciless tyranny over the last several decades. By doing all this, our troops are there defending our security so we can live in this great country, enjoying the freedoms and democracy that maybe all too often we take for granted, but in these times we simply cannot. And that gratitude we express to those men and women who are overseas right now fighting for us with boldness and courage and integrity and unselfishness.

I implied that elemental point of defending our security. Every day we see the pictures of the terrible abuses. We

need to recognize that all this effort that our U.S. Government and the American people are directing is to defend our security. That is an elemental point that we need to keep coming back to. We are fighting a shadowy enemy that seeks nothing less—their goal is to have destruction of our way of life, of the freedoms that we enjoy.

They take pleasure in wanton murder. They hide behind innocents and then slaughter them. They do so without hesitation. We can see the character of our enemy in the brutal slaughter last week of Nicholas Berg.

We saw it in the slaughter of Daniel Pearl, and we saw it in the slaughter of 3,000 innocent people on September 11 in this country.

As our President reminds us, we did not ask for this conflict. The war was brought to our doorstep. The battle against terror will last for years, and we all know that. That is the new reality. It may last for decades, but fight we must. It is a war we cannot afford to lose, and it is a war that we will win.

To his credit, Secretary Rumsfeld has shown vision and resolve in preparing us against these new threats. At the very beginning of the administration, Secretary Rumsfeld resaw the need to modernize our military. From focusing at the time on what was an outdated cold war strategy to now this current era of adjusting to new threats, which are posed by terrorism, to be able to address issues as we did in the Senate this week on bioterrorism, using viruses and bacteria and microorganisms that know no boundaries or borders and can spread rapidly—this is the new reality. He recognized that not all future threats to America will come from enemy soldiers in uniform. And before he became Secretary of Defense, he chaired a commission that identified the growing danger of a missile strike against the homeland.

Secretary Rumsfeld has been a strong and innovative leader. He has done a tremendous job in preparing our military for successful operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and we are grateful for the tremendous service he demonstrates every day. America is, indeed, fortunate to have such an exceptional Secretary of Defense in these times of crisis. Every day he is on the job, he is helping to make America safer and more secure.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, before closing, I want to mention several things that have occurred over the past several weeks on a different topic. We are an evenly divided body in the Senate, and people say they haven't seen more partisanship ever in their lives than over the last several years. I know that is true, but at the same time all of us, both sides of the aisle, recognize we were sent here to govern and to serve the national interest.

As we prepare to enter into our weeklong Memorial Day recess, very quickly I want to look back and share what progress we have made. Two days ago we passed Project Bioshield. It was supported by 99 Senators with a resounding yes. Project Bioshield, proposed by the President in his 2003 State of the Union Address, is comprehensive legislation that encourages research and encourages the development of new cutting-edge countermeasures to fight biological terrorism, chemical warfare, terrorism used with radiological or nuclear weapons. It is critical to our national security. This body came together and 2 days ago passed this important piece of legislation.

We also passed the JOBS bill which will protect more than 1 million high-quality manufacturing jobs in the United States. It cut taxes, a Euro tax that was going up at $40 million a month in this country on 100 American-made products.

Last week we passed, in terms of education, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. That special education bill refocuses our Federal law on outcomes for disabled children. It affects over 6.5 million children in this country and well over 400,000 special education teachers.

In the field of taxation and technology, we passed an Internet access tax moratorium extension which makes sure that we will be able to continue to access and promote broadband technologies. We are going to conference on the bill. We had agreement last week, actually last night, to go to the highway bill with the appointment of conferees. We have been able in the past week to come to an accommodation on the appointment of the President's judicial nominations.

We confirmed the nomination of Marcia Cooke. We confirmed John Negroponte to become American Ambassador to Iraq. The Senate has been productive, and I thank my colleagues for their hard work and cooperation.

When we return following Memorial Day we will go straight to class action reform. We will also return to the Department of Defense reauthorization.

We have a lot more to do, and I look forward to working with my colleagues in a productive, collaborative way as we move forward.

CLASS ACTION FAIRNESS ACT OF 2004—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, earlier today the chairman and ranking member of the Armed Services Committee were here to make further progress on the Department of Defense authorization bill. We have adopted a number of amendments that have been cleared. However, we have been unable to vote on the pending amendment which was offered by Senator GRAHAM of South Carolina. In addition, Senator WARNER has been unable to secure an agreement for a filing deadline or an amendment list. We have a list of possible Republican amendments. However, there is an objection on the Democratic side of the aisle to limiting amendments.

Further, many weeks ago we scheduled the class action legislation for when the Senate returns from the upcoming recess. I would add that the class action bill does have strong bipartisan support, and we would like to finish that bill in a reasonable period of time. I believe we can, indeed, do just that. I had hoped we would have been able to proceed to that bill by consent, but again there is an objection to proceeding to the class action bill.

I want to reiterate that we are going to finish the Defense authorization bill. It is a critical bill, an important bill. It is a bill we have made progress on this week. We need to lock in an amendment list on this legislation, the Defense authorization, to allow our managers to work with Senators on their respective amendments and to make continued progress. This is a vital piece of legislation, and we will return to the bill.

My intention is to go to the class action bill and then return to the Defense authorization bill.

Thus, I now ask unanimous consent that at 2:15 on Tuesday, June 1, the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 430, S. 2062, the class action bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, Mr. President, we are very disappointed that the distinguished majority leader is going to file cloture on this matter. We have said on more than one occasion we are willing to work toward completion of the Defense bill. We cooperated this week. We told the manager of the bill, both Senator LEVIN and I, let's go off of the Lindsey Graham amendment. We will agree to a 2-hour limitation of time when we come back next Tuesday to dispose of that and the Cantwell amendment that she would have offered. But that wasn't to be done. We indicated at that time that we would waste a lot of time.

We had a bipartisan amendment by Senator DASCHLE and Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM on TRICARE that would have moved forward. We had one that Senator KENNEDY had on the reporting. We were standing by with a number of amendments ready to go.

I would also say to the distinguished majority leader, we have supplied to the two managers of the bill our amendments, as Republicans have supplied amendments. There are about 100 amendments. They cleared a number this morning. They have cleared amendments in the past. I would also say that we take about 10 days on this bill normally. We don't think this bill will take that much time. We believe that when we come back, we would be in a position at that time, maybe not on Tuesday but by Wednesday, enter into an agreement as to a list of amendments. It is difficult to have our Members do this with a 10-day break because we don't know if there is going to be another Chalabi problem. We don't know if there is going to be another problem dealing with a prison.

We don't know what is going to happen. Events are moving so quickly.

I say to my distinguished friend, the majority leader, we believe it is more important to go to this Defense bill. I listened to every word of the statement of the distinguished majority leader about the Secretary of Defense. We have had other speeches on the floor today about how important it is that we continue supporting our troops. We believe that.

Last night, the House passed, on a bipartisan basis, a very important Defense authorization bill, by an overwhelming margin. We need to do the same.

I also say that we are willing to go to class action when we finish the Defense bill, which will probably be, I respectfully submit to my friend, Tuesday anyway because I don't think you are going to get cloture on this motion to proceed. I have spoken to my people who are advocates of class action reform—the junior Senator from Delaware, Mr. CARPER, and the Senator from New York, Mr. SCHUMER. They believe in class action reform a lot, but they are not going to vote for cloture.

We believe we should finish the Defense bill and then go to class action. I ask my friend, the distinguished majority leader, to modify his request to provide that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the class action legislation upon disposition of the Defense authorization bill. I make that request.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I object to the modification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. REID. I object to the request of the majority leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, let me briefly say I have had the opportunity to talk to the manager of the bill, and we feel very strongly that it is critical that we address this bill. The best way to do it is to allow the managers to work together over the recess and see if they can come back with amendments that are identified so we have some kind of certainty as to how we are going to bring this to closure.

In the meantime, while those discussions are underway, we will hopefully be able to proceed with class action.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I move to proceed to the consideration of S. 2062, and I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 430, S. 2062.

Bill Frist, Orrin Hatch, Charles Grassley, John Sununu, Lamar Alexander, Pete Domenici, Norm Coleman, Jim Talent, Larry Craig, Mitch McConnell, Trent Lott, John Cornyn, Judd Gregg, Richard G. Lugar, Mike Crapo, Saxby Chambliss, Jon Kyl, Peter Fitzgerald.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, could the majority leader schedule that for 5:30? It is so difficult for people on the west coast—and I am one of them—coming back that day. We don't arrive, if the plane is on time, until about 4 o'clock.

Mr. FRIST. We are happy to make it 5:30, June 1. We modify the unanimous consent request to be 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 1.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2400

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the adoption of the motion to proceed, the pending Department of Defense authorization bill not be placed back on the calendar, and that it remain the pending business.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on today's Executive Calendar: Calendar Nos. 582, 583, 584, 618, 621, 663, 666, 668, 670, 671, 675, and 684.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I want the record to reflect that we have cleared a significant number of people today, and we have basically filled the diplomatic corps, ambassadorial vacancies, except for one, and that is in Nepal.

I was on the Senate floor about 10 days ago when we cleared another batch of ambassadors. We had the same problem then that we have now. We have not cleared the only vacant ambassadorial spot open, and that is Nepal. There is an objection by the majority. The ambassadorial appointments are all done except for Nepal. It is not our fault. It is the fault of the majority.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Linda Morrison Combs, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation.

Francis Mulvey, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2007.

W. Douglas Buttrey, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2008.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Thomas Hill Moore, of Florida, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission for a term of seven years from October 27, 2003. (Reappointment)

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Deborah Hersman, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2008, vice John Goglia, term expired.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Miles T. Bivins, of Texas, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Sweden.

John J. Danilovich, of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Federative Republic of Brazil.

Earle I. Mack, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Finland.

Jack Dyer Crouch II, of Missouri, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Romania.

Jendayi Elizabeth Frazer, of Virginia, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of South Africa.

Mitchell B. Reiss, of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Envoy for Northern Ireland.

Victor Henderson Ashe, of Tennessee, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Poland.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, indeed, we just confirmed about 12 of the 96 pending nominations on the Executive Calendar, and I do thank my colleagues for allowing us to proceed on this list. These ambassadorial appointments and other nominations are all very important. It reflects a lot of work on both sides of the aisle to make this progress. We appreciate the cooperation of those to date. Again, that is 12 of 96 nominations on the Executive Calendar that I mentioned earlier this morning.

Mr. President, thus, I now ask consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nominations, en bloc: Calendar Nos. 429, 594, 595, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 617, 622, 623, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 641, 642, 643, 654, 655, 656, 658, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 694, 695, and 696.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, Mr. President.

Mr. FRIST. I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, the reason I got a little out of sorts there, I thought I was in Nevada listening to a bingo game being called. I apologize.

I reserve the right to object, and I do it for this reason: The two leaders have worked hard to clear nominations. We got a little movement on our side today. Therefore, we cleared some 12 nominations. We need some reciprocation. I do not know what the numbers were today. I do not know exactly, it is 3 to 12, 3 to 16. We got 3; they got 12 or 16. We need some reciprocation. Let me give an example.

We have nominated and sent to the White House, and the White House has sent back to us a man by the name of Dr. Greg Jasko. Dr. Greg Jasko is to go on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. I appeared at a hearing yesterday. This is one of the most important sensitive commissions in the entire American Government. They deal with the most sensitive issues—nuclear powerplants, the nuclear repository in Nevada, other nuclear facilities all over America. Dr. Jasko is eminently qualified. He has a Ph.D. in physics. We cannot get him cleared.

This is one of many examples of how it is not fair. I hope the distinguished majority leader will weigh in and help Dr. Jasko and others to get this roadblock cleared. It just really is not fair. We need some help on our boards and commissions. Therefore, I object, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, indeed, I will continue to work with the Democratic leadership to search for a way to confirm the remaining nominations. For those people listening who are not familiar with this process, as they can see, it is a give-and-take process that is a real struggle, but it does involve very important positions and, just as the distinguished Senator from Nevada said, individuals who are willing, who put themselves forward for public service in very important positions.

We will continue to work on those who remain on the calendar and future nominations.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE AND TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2003

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Chair now lay before the Senate a House message to accompany H.R. 1047, the miscellaneous tariffs bill; that the Senate disagree with the House amendment, agree to a conference with the House, and the Chair be authorized to appoint conferees with a ratio of 3 to 2.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. REID. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO REPORT

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the Senate's adjournment, committees be allowed to report legislative and executive matters on Wednesday, May 26, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

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

AUTHORITY TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS OR JOINT RESOLUTIONS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that during this adjournment of the Senate, the majority leader or the assistant majority leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

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

AUTHORITY TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses or by order of the Senate.

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

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2451 AND H.R. 1479

Mr. FRIST. I understand there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading, and I ask unanimous consent that the bills be given a second reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will read the bills by title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2451) to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to restore the application date for country of origin labeling.

A bill (H.R. 1479) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the disposition of unused health benefits in cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements, to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system, and to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to improve access and choice for entrepreneurs with small businesses with respect to medical care for their employees.

Mr. FRIST. I object to further proceedings on the measures en bloc at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bills will be placed on the calendar.

ORDER FOR PRINTING OF H.R. 1350, AS AMENDED

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the text of H.R. 1350, as amended by the Senate, be printed.

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

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2004

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 10 a.m., Tuesday, June 1. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day and the Senate then conduct a period for morning business until 12:30 with the time equally divided between the majority leader or his designee and the Democratic leader or his designee.

I further ask that the Senate stand in recess from 12:30 until 2:15 to accommodate the weekly party luncheons. I further ask that at 2:15, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 430, S. 2062, the Class Action Fairness bill, that the time until 5:30 p.m. be equally divided between the chairman and ranking member or their designees.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. I say through the Chair to the distinguished majority leader, we are going to have our conference on Wednesday for obvious reasons, because there will be so much travel. This year, Monday is actually Memorial Day. We are going to have very few people here until late in the evening on Tuesday, so I ask that the distinguished majority leader allow a modification to his unanimous consent request that we be allowed a time on Wednesday to have our party caucus.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, it would be so modified to have their party caucus luncheon at the usual time. Is it 12:30 to 2:15 on Wednesday as well?

Mr. REID. Approximately 12:45 to 2:15.

Mr. FRIST. 12:45 to 2:15 on Wednesday.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. For the information of all Senators, the Senate will be voting on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to the Class Action bill when we return after the Memorial Day recess.

Under a previous order, the vote will occur at 5:30 on Tuesday, June 1. That will be the first vote of the day. As I mentioned earlier, we will also need to complete the important Department of Defense authorization bill after the recess. It would be my intention to return to this bill upon completion of the class action bill.

Again, we need to assist our two managers on the Defense authorization

bill by securing a list of amendments and notifying them of potential amendments to that bill.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FRIST. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that the Senate stand in adjournment under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 432, following the remarks of Senator DOMENICI.

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

The Senator from New Mexico.

ENERGY POLICY

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, first I want to say I will be very brief. I have told the Senate, as best I could, that I would try to take the floor every day and say something about America's energy crisis. So today I want to speak again for a couple of minutes.

A week ago, some of my colleagues from the other side of the aisle were down here on the Senate floor complaining because they wanted the administration to persuade OPEC to increase its production. They acted and spoke as if our President was not doing anything about it, and that they were going to have to direct him to do it.

Instead of passing an energy bill, Senators on the other side continue to blame the President for the high price of gasoline. This administration has been part of an announcement today which I think indicates the President is doing his job well. Saudi Arabia has announced it will ask OPEC to increase its production by 2 million barrels a day.

That is the first solid good news we have had in a long time. If it happens, if they can, I think it is obvious part of that will be due to the good relations between our President and the Saudis. In a sense, the President is working hard with the tools he has to help us through this energy crisis.

But the American people are still waiting for this Senate to deliver an energy bill. I have been trying to pass the Energy bill for more than a year. Some of the same Senators who wanted the administration to persuade OPEC to increase production, as if the President were doing nothing, are the very Senators who have blocked the Energy bill for more than a year. Each of them seems to have one other reason that they will or will not vote for this energy bill. I am telling these Senators, the administration is doing everything it can to address oil prices, and they have asked us repeatedly to produce an energy bill.

If you don't like the President's suggestions, let's do something else. The Energy bill we produced was not exclusively the President's, though some on the other side continue to say they didn't like the President's and we have the President's bill here. That is not the case.

I again ask that the other side of the aisle seriously consider the proposition of sitting down with our side of the aisle and working through the Energy bill to see if we can't get together on an overwhelming portion of it so if the OPEC cartel reduces oil prices and we get some good news that it will not be temporary, it will not be a one-time event, but we can send a message to the world we are trying to solve our problem by bringing alternatives to the market in America.

If we told the world we were moving on natural gas and moving on coal and moving on nuclear and moving on wind energy and we are doing something for our electricity grid that is important and long term, they would react first in disbelief, because they wouldn't believe we could do it, and then, when it was done, there would be great relief in the world that America is doing something to help itself out of this crisis.

I commend to my colleagues an article from the June 2004 issue of the National Geographic, at page 84.

You wouldn't expect that to be the great source of this information, but it has the best article I have seen on oil today and oil in the future. It is called ''The End Of Cheap Oil.'' It tells us what a problem we have in America if we do not solve our energy crisis.

Let me close by saying most of us think our oil and its related products all go to automobiles and transportation. If you read this article you will find only half goes to that. Half of America's use goes to a myriad of products, from plastics to all kinds of related products, including many in the semiconducting industry. That comes from oil. Fifty percent of our use is for products, for agriculture, and all kinds of things.

I suggest we ought to get on with it. Maybe we learned our lesson and we don't have to come down here and try to blame the President and make this a political issue with reference to the White House, when, if the President wanted to go to the public every day, he could make sure they understood the truth. That is, it is our fault, not his.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2004 at 10 A.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 1.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 2:39 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, June 1, 2004, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate May 21, 2004:

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

LINDA MORRISON COMBS, OF NORTH CAROLINA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.

FRANCIS MULVEY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2007.

W. DOUGLAS BUTTREY, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2008.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

THOMAS HILL MOORE, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A COMMISSIONER OF THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM OCTOBER 27, 2003.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DEBORAH HERSMAN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2008.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MILES T. BIVINS, OF TEXAS, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO SWEDEN.

JOHN J. DANILOVICH, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL.

EARLE I. MACK, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND.

JACK DYER CROUCH II, OF MISSOURI, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ROMANIA.

JENDAYI ELIZABETH FRAZER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA.

MITCHELL B. REISS, OF VIRGINIA, FOR THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS SPECIAL ENVOY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND.

VICTOR HENDERSON ASHE, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND.

THE ABOVE NOMINATIONS WERE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEES' COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

FOSTER CARE

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of our Nation's foster care youth during National Foster Care month.

As of January 2003, there were 33,000 children in Los Angeles County foster care, which is the highest number of dependents in any county. I represent many of these youngsters who, on average, live in five different places. I co-sponsored H.R. 1534, which strives to place children in safe, loving, and permanent homes.

But what happens when these youths turn 18 and ''age out?'' Only 27 percent of foster care high school graduates attend college, half the national average. Foster care youths lack the funding and supportive climate college students need to succeed. I support legislation that helps foster care students with their college admissions and financing.

This week the Committee on Government Reform will meet to determine how our current foster care structure can be strengthened.

This Congress must act to ensure the future of our foster care youth is as bright as any other child's. Thank you.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ESAU PATTERSON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Army Staff Sergeant Esau Patterson, Jr. of Ridgeland, SC, who paid the ultimate sacrifice on April 29th in Iraq while on duty defending American families in the War on Terror. is a true hero and will be remembered as a patriot.

I ask all of my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

I ask that his obituary and an article from The Beaufort Gazette be inserted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

OBITUARY—ESAU PATTERSON JR., MAY 9, 2004

Staff Sgt. Esau Patterson Jr., 25, of Ridgeland, died Thursday, April 29, 2004, in Iraq.

The family will receive friends from 7 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Bostick Funeral Home.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Mount Carmel Baptist Center in Ridgeland, with burial in Patterson Cemetery in Ridgeland.

Mr. Patterson was born May 11, 1978, a son of Carrie Mae Osgood Patterson and Esau G. Patterson Sr.

He was a member of Mount Gilead AME Church in Columbus, Ga., where he was a Sunday school teacher. He was in the Army, SSG Battery C, 4th Battalion, 27 Field Artillery regiment 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, Combined Joint Task Force 7.

Survivors include his parents of Ridgeland; his wife, Kisha R. Patterson of Columbus, Ga; two grandparents, Elizabeth Osgood and Henry Osgood of Ridgeland; a daughter, Kesauna M. Patterson of Columbus, Ga; a son, Kaven M. Scott of Columbus, Ga; six sisters, Toneka P. Nelson, Tarsha P. Myers and Jamesha P. Anderson of Ridgeland, Charvia Watkis of Beaufort, Shamone Huggins of Whitehall and Marisa Patterson of Korea.

Bostick Funeral in Ridgeland is in charge.

[From the Beaufort Gazette, May 11, 2004]

FALLEN SOLDIER LAID TO REST

FAMILY, FRIENDS REMEMBER LOCAL MAN WHO DIED SERVING HIS COUNTRY IN IRAQ

(By Michael Kerr)

RIDGELAND.—Esau Patterson Jr. would have turned 26 today.

But instead of a birthday celebration, his family, friends and loved ones gathered Monday at Mount Carmel Baptist Center in Ridgeland, the Army staff sergeant's hometown, to honor and remember a man of God who fell as a hero on the Iraqi battlefield.

Patterson was killed along with seven other members of the Army's 1st Armored Division on April 29 near Mahmudiyah, south of Baghdad. He had been clearing explosives from a key Iraqi highway when a station wagon approached and detonated a car bomb, killing the eight soldiers and wounding four others.

''E.J.,'' as his friends and family knew him, was the only son in a family of six daughters. He left behind his wife, Kisha, 2–year-old daughter Kesauna and 4–year-old stepson Kaven Scott.

His father, Esau Patterson Sr., spoke about a son who had always made him proud before the more than 100 people who gathered in the church

''My expectations of a man are very high,'' said Patterson, who retired from the Army in 1992 and settled in Ridgeland.

Over the years, Patterson said, he watched his little boy exceed those expectations and become a man.

''That made me proud, and not because he was in the military,'' he said. ''He was a gentleman at all times. He always put other people in front of him. He always carried a smile on his face and tried to do the best.''

Family members and friends recited poems, sang hymns and told stories of a wonderful son, brother, father and husband. Patterson was a kind man, friends said, a man who loved his family and his country, a man who gave everything to protect them both.

''I am so proud to say, to have said, I have a family member, a first cousin, fighting for this country,'' said Roger Patterson, who traveled from New York to attend his cousin's funeral. ''I was so proud of that. It was the ultimate sacrifice he gave, and for that I'm proud.''

Patterson was more than just a soldier, his family has said. He attended church no matter where he was stationed, taught Sunday school and was always quick to help a neighbor with chores around the house.

Another of Patterson's cousins, Clementa Pinckney, the Democratic state senator from Ridgeland, grew up just a few minutes from the fallen soldier.

''He was always a good man, always with a smile . . . just happy-go-lucky,'' Pinckney said, standing in the family's cemetery. ''His father was a good soldier, and he wanted to be a good soldier like him.''

The state Senate adopted a resolution last week sponsored by Pinckney honoring Patterson and his sacrifice.

During the service, Brig. Gen. José Riojas, assistant commander of the Army's 3rd Infantry Division based at Fort Stewart, Ga., presented Patterson's wife with the Bronze Star and Purple Heart that he earned while waging war in the desert.

Soldiers decked out in dress uniforms served as pallbearers, and later fired a three-round rifle volley to honor Patterson as the sound of taps played by a lone bugler echoed throughout the otherwise quiet cemetery.

''You couldn't ask for a better person to protect our country,'' Pinckney said.

HONORING HONDA MANUFACTURING OF ALABAMA

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, on May 7, 2004, Honda Manufacturing of Alabama held a ceremony to recognize the beginning of production on its second line of vehicle assembly. This event highlights Honda's growing commitment to Alabama through investment, job creation and economic development. It emphasizes the jobs created by the expansion as well as the jobs created by the suppliers who have moved to the South, many of them in Alabama.

Honda opened its first assembly line in Lincoln in November 2001. One year later, Honda began construction of the second assembly line. A $425 million capital investment, coupled with the initial expenditure, brought Honda's investment in Alabama to more than $1 billion. The result is 4,300 high quality, good paying jobs and a doubling of the plant's initial production capacity to 300,000 vehicles and engines by the end of 2004. Honda's Pilot SUV will join the Odyssey as the two products manufactured at Honda Manufacturing of Alabama.

The new assembly line was built adjacent to the existing facility and will mirror the current facility's operations with synchronous body and engine assembly under one roof. Operations for stamping, plastic injection molding, die-casting and machining of engines and engine assembly have been increased at the existing facility to supply both assembly lines.

The jobs created at HMA are competitive in the industry, providing quality compensation and benefits. Honda had three objectives when it came to Alabama. First, it wanted to build a plant using the company's flexible manufacturing system. Secondly, it wanted to hire and train associates with no automotive experience. Finally, Honda wanted to employ associates using advanced technology and materials. The startup of the second assembly line at the Lincoln facility is testament to the success of these objectives in Alabama.

● This ''bullet'' symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Congratulations to Honda and its associates for their many achievements, and thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the House's attention today on this important matter.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS IMPORT TERMINAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2004

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, to counter the negative effects of soaring natural gas prices on the economy and consumers, Representative GENE GREEN (D-Houston) and Representative LEE TERRY (R–NE) introduced legislation to simplify the siting of onshore Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals.

''In June 2003, Alan Greenspan testified before the Committee that LNG was critical for the future stability of our economy. It would be a great help to provide LNG with the same regulatory certainty we provide natural gas pipelines.''

According to the National Petroleum Council, the United States is on course to pay an additional $1 trillion in natural gas costs over the next 20 years due to shortages. Along with increased domestic production and an Alaskan natural gas pipeline, LNG projects promise to help stabilize prices, but the permitting process for LNG facilities is uncertain and disputed, without clear lines between State and Federal authority.

''We need LNG, and we must make LNG terminals safe and secure. Current safety and security procedures and other proposals will be fully considered during this debate.''

''Unless we get LNG right, our Nation's $454 billion chemical industry and 1 million jobs could go the way of the steel industry. Electric power and heating bills are also crunching consumers. The Nation needs to address LNG in a meaningful way, and this legislation moves us on the right track.''

A summary of The Liquefied Natural Gas Import Terminal Development Act of 2004 is attached.

TALKING POINTS

Q: Why give FERC all the authority?

A: Like natural gas pipelines, LNG sites are national significant energy projects involving international and interstate commerce. FERC has stringent siting restrictions in place for LNG currently.

FERC believes they have this authority, but because interest in LNG projects have exploded, it may be necessary to spell FERC's authority out.

Q: What about state agencies that want to stop them?

A: We think they are making political plays. There are little if any air emissions or water discharges. The facilities have tough safety standards under FERC and tough security standards under the Coast Guard (Maritime Transportation Security Act).

We are saying that the states cannot question a ''public interest'' determination by FERC, because that is an interstate commerce determination.

Q: What about local zoning regulations?

A: FERC has tough siting standards that almost certainly preclude a site violating zoning standards. (There must be a buffer zone that is great enough so that flammable vapors will not reach beyond facility property lines. FERC also enforces DOT and National Fire Administration regulations that limit siting to appropriate areas.)

If we need language to reassure on local zoning, we are open to that. We are not trying to change LNG siting standards—we just stop states from arbitrarily blocking projects.

Q: What about security?

A: All facilities will be covered by the Maritime Transportation Security Act. In addition, there are extraordinary procedures beyond that law for security, including ship inspections, escorts and site security coordination with local law enforcement.

One proposal is using American crews on LNG tankers. We are open to adding security measures to the bill if the debate we have indicates more measures are needed.

SUMMARY OF THE TERRY-GREEN LNG LEGISLATION

WHY WE NEED TO EXPAND LNG CAPACITY

Because of its efficiency and environmental benefits, natural gas use has increased dramatically over recent years. Demand has caught up with supply, and natural gas prices are up more than 80 percent over the past four years. At the same time, U.S. natural gas production is falling at about two percent a year.

Over the next two decades, U.S. natural gas consumption is expected to rise 40 percent (and 70 percent throughout North America). It is expected that U.S. production will meet only 75 percent of the nation's demand by 2025. This is especially sobering considering that the United States consumes about 25 percent of the world's natural gas production—but holds only three percent of the world's natural gas reserves.

We must look for new options now, if we are to avoid the adverse economic implications. (According to the National Petroleum Council, the United States is on course to pay an additional $1 trillion in natural gas costs over the next 20 years due to shortages.) The Rocky Mountains, the Gulf of Mexico and Alaska will continue to be a vital part of our supply. However, expanding our liquefied natural gas (LNG) capacity is also critical, so we may bring natural gas from more ample supplies from around the world—creating a ''safety value'' to provide some leverage in determining natural gas availability and prices.

LNG—natural gas chilled to −260 degrees Fahrenheit—allows the safe transportation of gas from large-producing fields in places such as western Africa, the Caribbean, Malaysia, Australia, Qatar, South America, Russia, and Eastern Europe. LNG has been safely transported by ship for nearly half a century, with countries such as Japan receiving LNG shipments every 20 hours.

Currently, around 30 LNG terminals are in various stages of planning in the United States. With natural gas prices up from $1.50/thousand cubic feet pre-1995 to more than $6 today, boosting LNG's role in our energy portfolio is a sensible step.

WHAT THE TERRY-GREEN LNG LEGISLATION WOULD DO

This legislation would compliment the pending energy bill (H.R. 6) by working to add LNG to our energy portfolio. It would also provide parity between the application/review process for on-shore and offshore terminals. Specifically, this bill would:

Eliminate jurisdictional conflicts and legal ambiguities on siting and construction of LNG terminals. Jurisdictional conflicts between federal and state agencies threaten to delay or kill new LNG projects. Since the importation of LNG is a matter of foreign commerce, the Terry-Green bill would clarify that approval and siting authority for LNG facilities is most appropriately determined at the federal level, as established under the Natural Gas Act. It also clarifies that a public interest finding by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding the siting, construction, expansion and operation of LNG terminals under the Natural Gas Act is pre-emptive, and is not subject to second-guessing under state or local law.

Create a lead agency for LNG project review and permitting. Currently, several federal departments, and some state agencies, have a role in the approval process for construction or expansion of an onshore LNG terminal. This bill clarifies that the FERC is the lead agency, to streamline environmental review and permitting. Other federal agencies—and state agencies with authority delegated by federal law—keep their independent regulatory responsibilities. However, such agencies must act in a manner consistent with the public interest determination made by the FERC under the Natural Gas Act.

Set a deadline for FERC review of LNG terminal applications. Currently, there is no time requirement for FERC review of a LNG terminal application. To ensure a prompt evaluation, this bill requires the FERC to issue its decision one year after the application has been completed. The bill also gives the FERC authority to establish deadlines for other agencies making permitting decisions, taking into account timelines established by other Federal statutes.

Remove regulatory uncertainties for those building/expanding onshore LNG terminals. This bill codifies the FERC's important ''Hackberry'' decision on open access requirements, giving developers the certainty they need regarding economic regulation. This policy is necessary to encourage the development of new LNG capacity, especially considering a typical onshore LNG project can cost more than $500 million.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the recorded votes on Rollcall Vote No. 196, the Goode Amendment, and Rollcall Vote No. 197, the Davis (CA) Amendment. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye'' on the Goode Amendment and ''no'' on the Davis Amendment.

TO CONGRATULATE MEMBERS OF THE WESTPORT VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE (WVEMS) FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING WORK

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Westport Volunteer Emergency Medical Service (WVEMS) on their Quarter Century Anniversary for their outstanding work.

The men and women who dedicate their time and energy to the WVEMS are shining

examples of civic duty. As volunteers, they are vital to the Westport community.

The WVEMS volunteers come from all walks of life. Some of them run their own businesses, some are students. They have busy lives, yet they make time because they feel the need to give something back. Some are seniors who worked hard all their life and deserve to sit back and simply relax, yet they go out and volunteer their time and energy for a greater cause.

Over the years, the many awards and distinctions from local, State and national organizations—the Veterans of Foreign Wars, designation as a Connecticut Treasure and National Gold Award for Volunteer Corps from EMS Publications just to name a few—illustrate the selfless dedication with which they help countless individuals in need.

For two and a half decades WVEMS has gone above and beyond the call of duty to provide exceptional service, providing over half a million volunteer hours to date. Their efforts have formed a truly remarkable tradition. Fifteen of the founding members of the WVEMS are still with the Service, regularly putting in time to help others. Each one of them has been designated an American Red Cross Unsung Hero. Today, I want to sing their praise: Edward and Elizabeth Audley; Patricia Audley; Sharon Barnett; Russel M. Blair; Susan DeWitt; Michael Feigin; Richard Frazier; Neil Harding; Thomas M. Keenan; Kathleen Todd; Alan Yoder; Isabel Blair; Alan Stolz; Nettie Skinner; and Pasquale Salvo—you are heroes!

Two other members have been with the WVEMS for a quarter century, and I would like to commend them for their dedication over the years: Jay Paretzky and April Anne Yoder.

I would also like to include all the other active members of the WVEMS: William Puterbaugh; Norman Coltin; Sandra McPherson; Jeffrey T. Lea; Andrew Dinitz; Loretta S. Harsche; Marge Costa; Christine A. Evans; Todd M. Smith; Mark A. Blake; Anthony F. Santo; Donald E. Smith III; Thomas F. Burrows; Martha M. McGorry; Elizabeth Slattery; Chris VanDeusen; Diane Salvo; Benjamin Frimmer; Barbara F. Wood; Barbara Babash; Arlene M. Healy; Amy Smith; Linda Canterbury; Albert Bassett; Mary Jane Cross; KC Duffy; Linda Green; Carole Grob; Dorothy Harris; Gordon Joseloff; Chris Sanders; Whitney Cusa; James Flint; Nicole Donovan; Toni Cribari; Mary Minard; Terrence Blake; Michele Brewster; Michael Falbo; Cheryl Jones; Michael Quan; Rico Tiberio; Sylvia Lempit; Susannah Kehl; AnnaLiisa Joseloff; James Hinckley; Nanci Jenkins; David Heinmiller; Rainy Broomfield; Ronald Carkner; Donna Patchen; Robert Redman; Olivia Weeks; Courtenay Quinn; Joseph Devermann; Linda Gale; Jean Marie Wiesen; Nancy Strong; Gregory Coghlan; Paul Resnick; Barbra Utting; Adam Sappern; Nancy Fusaro; Wendy Hill; Megan Watson; Kristin Ancona; Kathryn Min; William Min; Susan Parks; Jamie Talbot; Michael Rickard; Marc Hartog; Michael Engelskirger; Craig Kupson; Elizabeth Jennings; Glenn Eisen; Angela Chichila; Anna Dowdle; Ashley Hawley; Andrea Hoboken; Dustin Schur; Jackie Stenson; Carol Boas; Yannick Passemart; Kerry Volmar; Michael Wilmot; Danielle Faul; David Bodach; Christin Giordano; Zack Klomberg; Jordan Kunkes; Alma Loya; Whitney Riggio; Kimber Roberts; Alicia Wong; Karen Bizzak; Margaret Russell; Richard Arriaga; Carol Dixon; Gabrielle O'Halloran; Daniel Rappaport; Dora Sweet; Lois Benfield; Adele Donohue; Susan Shewchuk; Nancy Toll; Pamela Nenham; Matthew Rees; Richard Celotto; John Sommers; Caroline Andrew; James Gray; Stephanie Howson; Rebecca Kamins; Kaitlyn Mello; Elizabeth Parks; Christian Renne; Rob Stewart; Emma Trucks; Christina Voonasis; Maryanne Boyle; Robert Dowling; Yashasvi Jhangiani; Maribeth Nixon; and Steve Brothers.

Your service is outstanding!

HONORING THE 2004 PROVIDENCIA AWARD RECIPIENT, MR. PATRICK ROONEY, SR.

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of the House the achievements of Patrick Rooney, Sr., a constituent of mine from Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, in receiving the prestigious 2004 Providencia Award from the Palm Beach County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

May 2004, being National Tourism Month, is the perfect time to honor Pat, who owns and operates the Palm Beach Kennel Club in West Palm Beach and three Irish restaurants called ''Rooney's Public House'' located at the Palm Beach International Airport, West Palm Beach and Jupiter's Abacoa. I am a patron of those restaurants and can testify to the quality of food and service and to the vibrancy they bring to the surrounding communities.

The Providencia Award was named after the coconut-laden Spanish ship that sank off the shore of Palm Beach in 1878, washing ashore its cargo bringing Coconut Palms to the island and inspiring the name ''Palm Beach.'' Each year, it is awarded to an individual or entity that has made an exceptional contribution to the County's $2 billion tourism industry. Past recipients include Burt Reynolds, Chris Evert, Jack Nicklaus, Alex Dreyfoos, The Breakers, The Boca Raton Resort and others. This year it belongs to Pat Rooney, who is being honored for his contributions.

Mr. Speaker, in my South Florida Congressional District, home of fervent Miami Dolphin fans, we forgive and overlook Pat's strong allegiance to the Pittsburgh Steelers, which his family owns. We focus rather on the tremendous impact Pat has on our community. Pat serves on the Economic Council, and the Palm Beach County Attractions Association. The Hanley Hazelden Foundation, Boys and Girls Club of Palm Beach, Greyhound Adoption League, Lynn University, and the American Red Cross have also benefitted from his generous philanthropy.

Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Mac McLaughlin and his team for selecting another great honoree this year. To Pat Rooney, congratulations on this important recognition and I wish you good health and continued success, except when it comes to the AFC Conference Championship.

H. CON. RES. 352

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 352 and to recognize the great contributions of people of Indian origin to the United States and to strengthen our bilateral relationship with the people of India.

For decades, people of Indian origin have immigrated to the United States. They have made extraordinary contributions to our Nation, from advancements in science and technology to business development, philanthropy, literature and the arts. Their contributions have helped make the United States a more diverse and prosperous country.

In Minnesota, people of Indian origin have made their presence felt throughout our communities and neighborhoods. Small and large Indian businesses have flourished in Minnesota. Groups like the India Association of Minnesota, the Asian Pacific Policy Roundtable and CAIR Minnesota have worked very hard to promote a strong, bilateral relationship between India and the United States, raising greater awareness toward human rights and regional reform. Other organizations, like the Indo-American Association of Minnesota, have taken the lead in promoting arts, cultural, spiritual and classical music as well as entertainment. Our colleges and universities have also expanded educational exchanges and opportunities between Minnesota and India, fostering new relationships and promoting greater cooperation between our two countries.

Minnesota has also seen a rise in new and exciting Indian-American leaders, including State Senator Satveer Chaudhry, elected in 2000 and representing Senate District 50 in my Congressional District. Senator Chaudhry is the highest-ranking Indian-American elected official in the country. As a friend and a former colleague, Senator Chaudhry's leadership has ensured that Indian-American families in Minnesota, as well as all the families in his district, are well represented.

Again, I support H. Con. Res. 352 and I urge passage of this important legislation. Minnesota has benefited greatly from its Indian-American community and I look forward to strengthening our relationship with our Indian friends and neighbors in the future.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. CON. RES. 95, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the budget resolution lays out the framework for next year's Federal Government revenues, spending and borrowing. It is clearly a roadmap for continuing fiscal mismanagement and misplaced priorities.

The budget allows for further tax cuts, which primarily benefit those least in need, while increasing the nation's debt limit to over $8 trillion. The projected $367 billion deficit for 2005

is the result of these policies and this does not include funding for ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

A serious concern for people who care about the environment and the economy is the failure to fund even the inadequate level required by the House passed transportation reauthorization. The Republican budget resolution assumes $273 billion for transportation, $11 billion less than the $284 billion provided in House legislation and $45 billion less than the Senate-passed funding level. This is wholly inadequate and will have serious consequences for every State in America.

Tax cuts during wartime that benefit the wealthy, shifting fiscal burdens to our children, shortchanging America's priorities, risking the Social Security and Medicare funding on which retirees rely—this budget is at once shameless and shameful.

MILLER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON OVERTIME

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Representative MILLER's Motion to Instruct Conferees on Overtime.

The Bush Administration recently released their final regulations on overtime pay—regulations that originally called for the elimination of overtime pay for millions of workers including America's police and firefighters.

While the final regulations omitted this group at the last possible minute—due to extreme Democratic pressure—let's remember their true intentions, that of eliminating overtime pay to the police and firefighters of America.

It is so hypocritical for the Republicans to come up here and pass resolutions celebrating the New York City fire and police departments—and then cut their pay.

No one enters law enforcement or becomes a firefighter for the money—but Republicans had the audacity to suggest that these hard-working men and women are not entitled to overtime that they and their families depend on.

While they have had the incredible vision to reconsider their original request, everyone in this chamber knows—and more threatening to the Republicans—every police officer and firefighter in America knows—or will know—that if the Bush Administration and the Congressional Republican majorities are back next year, it is a foregone conclusion that they will revisit these overtime regulations and will succeed in their initial dream of eliminating all overtime for all cops and firefighters in the U.S.

The Administration and this Congress have a sad track record of shortchanging police and firefighters, while pretending to stand with them.

And now their revised ''compassionate conservative'' overtime regulations eliminate overtime protections for millions of other American workers.

I received a letter from a woman in the Bronx who is a dedicated and experienced health care provider.

She, like other health care providers that support us in our times of need, is being told by the Republicans that she might not be entitled to overtime.

She writes that she is concerned that overtime work without overtime pay will not only hurt workers like her, but will also hurt patients.

How can that be construed as being supportive of American workers or as being supportive of America?

Sadly, this Administration's record does little to suggest that they understand or care about the needs of American workers.

This Administration's record on labor issues is horrific—besides working to destroy the entire concept of overtime pay, they have attacked and tried to eliminate the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage provisions for our road builders and building trades workers.

This Administration has started denying COLAs to federal civilian employees—COLAs they are more than happy to reward themselves with.

This Administration has opposed legislation to allow workers to create unions so that they get better wages and benefits that benefit themselves and their families.

The destruction of 3 million jobs, the serious attempt to eliminate overtime provisions in our country, and working to crack the Davis-Bacon law—this is an Administration that does not care for working people.

Support the Miller amendment and let the Republicans know—you are sick and tired of these overpaid, underworked people trying to cut your pay while raising theirs.

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY HO

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Anthony Chung Yi Ho, Senior Officer with the Taipei Economic Council and Cultural Representative and Senior Assistant to the Honorable C.J. Chen, Taiwan's chief representative in the United States. Mr. Ho has been with the Washington, DC, office of the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs for 6 years, and his presence will be sorely missed when he returns to Taiwan later this year. Mr. Ho is a true asset to the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His leadership and expertise have been invaluable in working with my Washington, DC, staff and many other congressional offices as well.

Traditionally, Idaho maintains a close relationship with the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Idaho State University has developed a strong partnership with the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in large part because of ISU's English and Professional Development Program. This unique program, the only program of its kind in the United States, provides a language and cultural education program for junior diplomatic officers in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Over 40 students have completed the program since its inception in the early 1990s, and many of these graduates now serve their country in diplomatic postings throughout the world. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Language and Culture Training Program at ISU is an excellent collaborative relationship that is strengthening our countries through a better understanding of each of our cultures.

While serving as a Senior Officer, Mr. Ho has worked closely with my office. Largely thanks to his efforts, I have been able to meet and work with many of Taiwan's junior diplomatic officers attending this program at Idaho State University. They are an intelligent, energetic group who are eager to serve their country. They are very interested in gaining as much knowledge and insight as possible during their stay in America and look forward to using what they have learned as they progress in their diplomatic careers.

Under Mr. Ho's guidance, our office has cultivated a valuable relationship with the Taiwan Foreign Ministry. He arranged a dinner among the junior diplomatic officers and myself in Pocatello, and he has also worked with our office to arrange the stay of a junior officer from ISU in our Washington, DC, office. For 2 years, I have had the privilege of hosting a junior officer from the ISU program in the Capitol.

Mr. Ho's excellent collaborative relationship with my office plays a critical role to strengthening relations between the United States and Taiwan through strong communication and a better understanding of each of our cultures. I commend Anthony Ho for his dedication and guidance. It has been an honor and a pleasure to work with him, and we will greatly miss him when he leaves Washington, DC.

RECOGNITION OF ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the designation by President Bush that the month of May be known as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

The more than 13 million Americans who have Asian/Pacific heritage have worked diligently to enrich the culture of our Nation and of our lives.

Asian/Pacific Americans are a growing and welcome force in my home state of Illinois. Their continuing contributions to our communities, whether as large as Chicago, or as medium sized as my hometown of Collinsville, are immeasurable.

Asian/Pacific Americans bring with them a heritage of pride, hard work, commitment to family and faith, and a love of freedom that serves as an example and reminder for all of us.

I am proud of the President for his recognition of the Asian/Pacific American community and of their overall value to our nation's future. I salute the Asian/Pacific American community and join them in celebrating their heritage.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I would like to state for the record that my vote yesterday on the amendment to H.R. 4200 offered by SUSAN DAVIS of California was intended to be a ''no'' vote. I oppose this amendment.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HINKLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to highlight the accomplishments of a special group of students from Hinkley High School in Aurora, Colorado.

After learning about the devastating effects of land mines from African History teacher Chris Sundberg, students in the International Baccalaureate program worked to raise $6,000 for Colorado Adopt-A-Minefield. The Adopt-A-Minefield program is part of the United Nations Association. It works to save lives by raising funds for mine clearance and survivor assistance, and to raise awareness about the landmine problems. This donation was the single largest donation ever received by the Colorado branch of the organization. The money will be used to help clear landmines from a field in Mozambique.

Minefields are often left abandoned or improperly cleared after a regional conflict. These land mines devastate thousands of lives every year by leaving civilians, particularly children, maimed for life. The students of Hinkley High School decided to reach out across the divide of culture and distance to children from another continent and help make our world a safer place.

Mr. Speaker, these students worked tirelessly to both raise money for landmine removal efforts and to increase awareness of the devastating effects of abandoned landmines. Their commitment to helping others in this way should serve as an example to us all.

TRIBUTE TO THE PROBLEM SOLVING TEAM OF THE QUEST PROGRAM AT JOHN HOWARD, JR. SCHOOL IN EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I rise to acknowledge the accomplishments of the Problem Solving Team of the Quest Program at the John Howard, Jr. School in East Orange. This team was concerned about gangs in their neighborhood and decided to take action. They established themselves as PEGASUS PUSH, meaning Peers Educating Gang Awareness Stopping Unnecessary Suffering Providing Useful Strategies for Home. The Problem Solving Team has volunteered over 1000 hours towards this project by publishing a monthly Gang Awareness Newsletter, organizing a Family Fest Night, a Fun Day Fair, creating a Pegasus Website, establishing an after school PEP PICK Program, a Day at the Ball Park, a Saturday Delight Program, a Mother-Son, Father-Daughter Night, Holiday Celebrations and Puppet Shows. All of these activities were designed to engage their peers and others in constructive projects and out of gangs.These students, namely, Khalil Banner, Jordan Clarke, Estefani Ubri, Felix Torres, Markia Hutchinson, Shanice Thomas, Monique McDonald, Melina Reyes, Cameron Glover, Shaenice McKenzie, Safa Muhammad, Zasha Martinez and their coach, Ms. Christine McAdams are to be commended for their unselfish actions in trying to eliminate gangs where they live.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing this outstanding group of fourth and fifth grade students along with their coach for placing first in New Jersey in the junior division of the Community Problem Solving Component of the International Future Problem Solving Program. As a result of this achievement, these members of PEGASUS PUSH and students at Dr. John Howard, Jr. School will represent New Jersey at the International Competition in Lexington, Kentucky on June 2–6, 2004. The contributions made and the leadership shown by the members of PEGASUS PUSH have already made them winners in the 10th Congressional District. I wish them continued success in this very worthwhile effort.

RECOGNIZING GUNNERY SERGEANT VINCENT C. SANTIAGO FOR HIS PROMOTION TO FIRST SERGEANT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. This citation is presented to Gunnery Sergeant Vincent C. Santiago, a native of Merizo, Guam, for his promotion to the rank of First Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps.

Gunnery Sergeant Santiago is the son of Joseph and Mary Santiago of Merizo, Guam. He is married to the former Selma D. Reyes, daughter of Peter and Josephine Reyes, also from Merizo. Vincent and Selma have three children, Vincent Jr., PeterJoe, and Serresa.

Sergeant Santiago entered the United States Marine Corps in September 1989, graduating from boot camp in San Diego, California, with a meritorious promotion to the rank of Private First Class. After completing his Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) training at the School of Infantry as a 0341 Mortar man, he was assigned to Marine Barracks Guam as a Marine Security Guard where he was promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal in August 1990. Seven months later, in March 1991, he was meritoriously promoted to Corporal, eventually receiving orders to 3rd Battalion 5th Marines at Camp Pendleton, California.

In 1993, Gunnery Sergeant Santiago moved to Maintenance Management, where he became the Battalion's Maintenance Management Chief and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. After completing Drill Instructor School at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California, he was assigned to Company ''A'', 1st Recruit Training Battalion.

Among his many accomplishments, Gunnery Sergeant Santiago has received the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal in lieu of third award and the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal in lieu of fourth award. In addition, Gunnery Sergeant Santiago was also Marine of the Quarter in March 1991 while stationed at Marine Barracks, Guam, and selected as Drill Instructor of the Quarter for the 1st Recruit Training Battalion in March 1996. He is also certified in the Marine Corp Martial Arts Program as an Instructor Trainer, 1st Degree Black Belt.

Gunnery Sergeant Santiago is the Drill Master at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. He will receive his promotion to First Sergeant on June 1, 2004, upon completion of his current tour of duty. He will then report to the 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division at Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, for duty as Company First Sergeant where I am confident he will continue to serve with honor and distinction.

Gunnery Sergeant Santiago's career reflects the courage and determination of the Chamorro people. We are very proud of our native son. On behalf of the people of Guam, I want to congratulate Gunnery Sergeant Santiago and his family on his accomplishments, and extend our gratitude for his service to our island and our country.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. CON. RES. 95, CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, budgets should be plans for the future. They should reflect our values and provide a roadmap to the kind of country we want to be.

But this budget provides virtually no plan whatsoever. In an unprecedented sleight-of-hand, this budget only applies any semblance of fiscal responsibility—the so-called ''PAYGO'' rules—to the other body's budget, not this one—exempting, of course, $55 billion in tax cuts for the wealthy. It covers only a single year of budget policy, demonstrating the Republicans' utter lack of commitment to providing the critical resources for defense, homeland security, education, veterans, and other priorities. And, for all intents and purposes, it increases the debt limit for the third time in 3 years. If budgets are roadmaps, this one puts us on a road to nowhere.

Deficits do matter, Mr. Speaker. At a time when rising health care costs, and declining wages are squeezing our middle class, deficits do not make our country stronger. They lead to rising interest rates, less business investment and declining homeownership, and make it harder for families to achieve financial security. Deficits are a problem for our children and our children's children.

At a time when manufacturing employment, once the foundation of our economy, is at a 53-year low, with many of those jobs having been sent overseas, when hundreds of thousands of Americans are giving up hope looking for work every month, it is time we choose a different course for this country—a responsible course. It is time we act with a shared sense of purpose and responsibility to address the tasks before our country. That is what this budget process should be about, and that is what this budget should do.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DONALD J. KRAPOHL

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual, Mr. Donald J. Krapohl. On May 23, 2004, family and friends will gather to honor Donald, as he celebrates his 75th birthday.

Donald is a longtime resident and tireless advocate of Genesee County. He held the election positions of Mt. Morris Township Trustee and Supervisor. In addition, Don served his community in many other capacities, including but not limited to the Beecher Board of Education, Genesee County Economic Development Corp., Genesee County Parks Commission, Genesee County Bicentennial coordinator, Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission, Mt. Morris Twp. Housing Commission, Department of Outdoor Recreation advisory committee, National Association of Counties Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement committee, Forward Development Corporation, Genesee County water and waste division advisory committee, and Chairman of the Mt. Morris Twp. Senior Citizen Board of Directors.

During his career, Don has received numerous recognitions for his outstanding community leadership. He was named an honorary Fireman by the Mt. Morris Central and Beecher Fire departments. The Mt. Morris Township Senior Citizen Center was named in his honor. To know Don is to appreciate him. He is a hard working and unselfish leader. He is an inspiration to others who are serving their community. Aside from his duties in public service, he is the coach for the Beecher Schools little league football program.

Don and his lovely wife Barbara have four wonderful children, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, as the Member of Congress representing Genesee County, Michigan, I ask my colleagues in the 108th Congress to please join me in not only recognizing my good friend Mr. Donald Krapohl for his outstanding citizenship and concern for the people of Genesee County, but to wish him a very happy 75th birthday, and many more to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in the family I missed several votes last week. Had I been present:

Rollcall No. 162 (on motion to recommit H.R. 4279), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 163 (on passage of H.R. 4279), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 164 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 352), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 165 (on motion to recommit H.R. 4280), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 166 (on passage of H.R. 4280), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 167 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree, as amended to H. Con. Res. 378), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 168 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 409), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 169 (on agreeing to the Tanner amendment to H.R. 4275), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 170 (on passage of H.R. 4275), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 171 (on motion to instruct conferees on S. Con. Res. 95), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 172 (on agreeing to the Kind amendment to H.R. 4281), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 173 (on motion to recommit with instructions H.R. 4281), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 174 (on passage of H.R. 4281), I would have voted ''nay''.

Rollcall No. 175 (on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.J. Res. 91), I would have voted ''yea''.

Rollcall No. 176 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Con. Res. 414), I would have voted ''yea''.

MAY IS ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and I would like to commemorate the substantial achievements of Asian Pacific Americans to our nation's history. My district, comprised of Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito Counties in California owes a particularly large debt to the Asian Pacific community. California has benefited greatly from the contributions of Asian Pacific immigrants throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. Chinese immigrants were instrumental in building the transcontinental railroad which helped open California to settlement and brought rapid economic growth to the West and along with immigrants from Japan, helped start Monterey's commercial fishing industry.

The Central Coast of California was and still is, highly dependent on agriculture. Starting in the late 1890s, Chinese, Japanese and Filipino farm laborers were the engine behind the growth and development of the agricultural industry. Farm labor work on strawberry and peach farms was often back-breaking work; laborers rose at dawn and worked until dusk, and were generally paid very poorly. Additionally, Asian Pacific immigrants were often treated horribly and harshly discriminated against. Filipino farm workers formed the first organized group in the early history of the United Farm Workers Union. Despite these conditions and obstacles, over the last hundred years, the Asian Pacific American community has grown into a vibrant community that has made substantial contributions to California and our nation as a whole. I am proud to represent a large Filipino population in my district who are active citizens of the community.

This year's theme of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month is ''Freedom for All—A Nation We Call Our Own,'' and exemplifies one of the best aspects of the America; that all citizens can take ownership in our society and country and work towards building a better nation. Mabuhay.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on May 19, 2004, I missed a series of rollcall votes in the House of Representatives because of a family obligation that required my presence in Arizona. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yes'' on rollcall votes 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 198, and 199. I would have voted ''no'' on rollcall vote 197.

CLARIFICATION OF ANTITRUST REMEDIES IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 2004

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, the application of the antitrust laws in the telecommunications sector has produced enormous competitive benefits. Market competition has fostered innovative technologies, greatly enhanced product and service choices, and reduced prices for millions of American telecommunications consumers. The threat of treble damages for antitrust violations has provided a powerful deterrent against anticompetitive misconduct in this marketplace.

Indeed, the primary catalyst for the structural changes that have produced the enormous competitive gains and expanded consumer choice in the telecommunications fields was the principled application of the antitrust laws. The legal basis for the elimination of Ma Bell's national telephone monopoly was rooted in the antitrust laws. While the former AT&T had operated in a highly intensive Federal and State regulatory regime for decades, the government relied on the antitrust laws to provide the robust procompetitive remedy that regulation could not, did not, and will not provide alone.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the ''Telecom Act''), was enacted ''to promote competition and reduce regulation in order to secure lower prices and higher quality services for American telecommunications consumers . . . by opening all telecommunications markets to competition.'' In passing the Telecom Act, Congress did not create an ''antitrust free zone'' in which the regulatory provisions of the Telecom Act limited the historic application of the antitrust laws in deterring and punishing monopolistic misconduct in the telecommunications field.

Rather, to reaffirm the centrality of the antitrust laws in the overall regulatory scheme created by the Telecom Act, Congress included an explicit antitrust saving clause in the legislation. In clear and forceful legislative guidance, Congress said:

''. . . Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed to

modify, impair, or supersede the applicability of any of the antitrust laws.''

The inadequacy of regulation to fully deter anticompetitive misconduct is widely recognized. In fact, Federal Communications Commission Chairman Michael Powell, whose agency has authority to implement the Telecom Act, concluded in a 2001 letter to the Senate Appropriations Committee that the FCC's current fining authority for anticompetitive violations is ''insufficient to punish and deter violations in many instances . . . given the vast resources of many of the nation's [incumbents.]''

Despite Congress's unmistakable resolve to preserve the vital role of the antitrust laws in this field, a record of considerable judicial confusion has developed in our nation's courts. In 2000, the Seventh Circuit issued the Goldwasser decision, ignoring the plain language of the antitrust savings clause and holding that the Telecom Act ''must take precedence over the general antitrust laws.''

In Law Offices of Curtis Trinko v. Verizon, the Second Circuit Court of Appeals sharply departed from Goldwasser's flawed reasoning and upheld the plain language of the Telecom Act, thus preserving an antitrust cause of action for anticompetitive misconduct in the telecommunications market in addition to the regulatory regime created by the Telecom Act.

In March of 2003, the Supreme Court granted certiorari to review the case. In November of 2003, the Committee on the Judiciary conducted an oversight hearing titled: ''Saving the Savings Clause: Congressional Intent, the Trinko Case, and the Role of the Antitrust Laws in Promoting Competition in the Telecom Sector.'' This hearing examined the need to preserve an antitrust remedy for anticompetitive misconduct that may also violate provisions of the Telecom Act. During the committee's hearing, I stated that ''judicial circumvention or erosion of the savings clause contained in the 1996 Act will necessitate a swift and decisive legislative correction from this Committee and Congress.''

In January, 2004, the Supreme Court handed down its Trinko decision. While the Court upheld the antitrust savings clause on its face, the decision makes it nearly impossible to state an antitrust claim for anticompetitive conduct within the regulatory ambit of the Telecom Act.

In reaching its conclusion, the majority looked to the perceived institutional capacity of regulators to remedy anticompetitive misconduct. Specifically, the majority decision stated: ''One factor of particular importance is the existence of a regulatory structure designed to deter and remedy anticompetitive harm. Where such a structure exists, the additional benefit to competition provided by antitrust enforcement will tend to be small, and it will be less plausible that the antitrust laws contemplate such additional scrutiny. . . .'' The Court also stated that the ''regulatory framework that exists in this case demonstrates how, in certain circumstances, 'regulations significantly diminished the likelihood of major antitrust harm.' '' The Court then concluded that ''against the slight benefits of antitrust intervention here, we must weigh a realistic assessment of its costs.''

This is precisely the judicial analysis that the antitrust savings clause in the Telecom Act precluded. This fundamental judicial error ignores the plain meaning of the antitrust savings clause contained in the Telecom Act and the intent of Congress, and undermines remedial antitrust enforcement in a manner that threatens continued competitive gains in the telecommunications marketplace.

Last November, I stated that ''judicial circumvention of the antitrust savings clause in the Telecom Act will necessitate a decisive legislative correction from this Committee and Congress.'' The legislation I introduce today, with the consponsorship of Ranking Member CONYERS, delivers on this commitment. This bill reiterates Congress's intent that the full force of the antitrust laws apply to the telecommunications field. The ''Clarification of Antitrust Remedies in Telecommunications Act of 2004'' merely provides that unlawful monopolistic behavior that may also violate the regulatory obligations of the Telecom Act may constitute an antitrust violation. The legislation provides an antitrust remedy for these violations irrespective of the existence of regulations that apply to this industry. In so doing, the legislation merely reiterates the plain meaning of the antitrust savings clause and the broad bipartisan intent of Congress to preserve the application of the antitrust laws in the telecommunications field irrespective of the existence of the Telecom Act.

To be clear, the legislation does not automatically transform violations of the 1996 Act into antitrust violations: this is not, nor has it even been, the intent of preserving application of the antitrust laws in the regulatory scheme created by the Telecom Act. The ''Clarification of Antitrust Remedies in Telecom Act of 2004'' merely reaffirms that violations of the Telecommunications Act may constitute an antitrust violation in appropriate circumstances: this legislation restores the result Congress intended; it does not transform the antitrust laws nor create antitrust obligations that the Telecommunications Act did not contemplate.

Over the last five decades, the Committee on the Judiciary has played a central role promoting competition in the telecommunications market. It has drafted procompetitive legislation and overseen its implementation. The committee has also diligently preserved the application of the antitrust laws in the telecommunications marketplace. The ''Clarification of Antitrust Remedies in Telecommunications Act of 2004'' continues this important tradition by ensuring that the antitrust laws continue to provide a catalyst to promote competition and consumer choice in this vital marketplace.

In that vein, I wish to comment briefly on a related matter. The committee continues to monitor the status of negotiations between incumbent and competitive local exchange carriers requested by the Federal Communications Commission in light of the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals March 2, 2004, invalidation of key aspects of the most recent FCC Triennial Review Order. While the Committee on the Judiciary does not intend to prejudice the outcome of these continuing talks, it reserves the right to review these agreements to ensure that they are consistent with the antitrust laws and promote competition and consumer choice in the telecommunications marketplace.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that the antitrust laws produce the irreversibly open telecommunications markets that we all seek, and urge their support for this critical legislation.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4200, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose the Republican Majority's proposed rule that would limit debate on a matter as important as the Department of Defense Authorization bill, which purports to provide spending in excess of $400 billion for Fiscal Year 2005. At a time when Members of the United States House of Representatives claim to be supporting the extension of democracy in Afghanistan and Iraq, it is unconscionable for the leadership to limit debate in the House.

There were times in the not too distant past, where a bill of this magnitude would have been debated for at least two weeks. Members would have had the opportunity to voice their position on hundreds of amendments important to their constituents and the nation. It appears that keeping with the Republican Majority's fear that reasonable Republicans will join Democrats in actually improving the underlying bill, the Rules Committee has acceded to the Majority Leadership's pressure and only allowed 28 of 127 amendments for debate and vote. This institution—the People's House—deserves better, and the American people deserve better. Had the Rules Committee and the Leadership followed a practice from a time before the current Majority was in power, most if not all of the proposed amendments would have been made in order, including two amendments which I proposed and which, I firmly believe are in our common interest.

We should be able to agree that American defense workers are 100 percent committed to our armed forces and to ensuring that America has the best trained, best equipped, best led forces in the world. Unfortunately, these workers have seen their jobs vanish at an alarming rate without explanation or justification. Over the past 15 years, defense-related employment is said to have fallen by some 67 percent. This translates into over a million lost jobs. We need to do more to reverse this disturbing trend.

The Amendment I sought would place us standing firmly in solidarity with these workers. First, we would find out where the jobs have gone, and second, fight to keep them in this country.

We made a similar fight last year. We were partially successful. The House-passed version of the Defense Department Authorization bill established a ''Defense Industrial Base Assessment Program'' to collect new information about where defense contracts are being performed; to determine what percentage of the contract is being completed overseas; and to learn the business rationale for why contractors are sending contract work out of the United States. The bill then called for the Secretary of Defense to recommend a plan for getting back as much of the off-shored work as possible in future years. Unfortunately, that program was significantly weakened when the Senate version of last year's authorization bill failed to include the language, and the conference report only required the Department to

use existing data to study the problem and eliminated the mandate to look at where and why these contracts are leaving this country. Some suggested that the mere existence of that program would allow us to get a better understanding of the strength and capacity of our defense base; such is not the case. A program that relies exclusively on existing data and only asks rudimentary questions will not provide the most complete assessment of our industrial base.

The Department of Defense is required by the National Defense Authorization Act of 1997 to submit, on an annual basis, a report to Congress on the amount of purchases from foreign entities for the previous fiscal year.

That, however, was inadequate, as shown when the most recent report submitted to the Armed Services Committee exposed the shortcomings with relying on 'existing data' to monitor prime contracts. The report stated, ''In some instances, the exact information required by Section 827 is not available, and the Department of Defense had made assumptions to complete the report.'' It goes on to say that some of the other information needed to complete the report was, ''not readily available in the Department of Defense database.''

If we know the Pentagon's use of existing data does not fully capture our country's purchases from foreign entities, why should we have any greater confidence that it will accurately assess our country's defense industrial base? We must put the teeth back into this much-needed program—new data must be collected and the right questions must be asked.

Still, knowing what happened to this work is only the first step. We must do more than close the barn doors after the horses have left. Strategies must be implemented that restore and revitalize the defense-manufacturing base and they must be implemented right now.

My amendment also required that the Secretary, as a condition of procurement, mandate that the contractor perform substantially all, and in no event less than 65 percent, of the primary and secondary manufacturing contracts in the United States. The Secretary would be allowed to waive this requirement only in cases where products and services were not available in this country or where concerns of national security necessitated a waiver. Even when waived, the Secretary would have to notify Congress, citing the business rationale or relevant threat information for the determination. The amendment also would have required, on an annual basis, that the General Accounting Office study the number of waivers and submit a report to Congress offering recommendations on how the United States can increase capacity and further strengthen our industrial base.

It is long past time that we move beyond rhetoric about appropriately prioritizing the work to be completed in the United States and require the Secretary of Defense to work toward that goal.

Just as we in Congress continue to fulfill our patriotic promise to our men and women in uniform, we must also demonstrate an equal commitment to those men and women who build, repair, and operate the machines that sustain and strengthen our security here at home. Mr. Speaker, while I am disappointed that Congressional Republicans denied my colleagues the opportunity to vote on my important Build America amendment, I would like to commend the dedicated advocates who work tirelessly everyday to ensure American defense jobs do not go overseas. I would like to commend Armed Services Chairman DUNCAN HUNTER and Senior Democrat IKE SKELTON for inserting provisions into this bill that are intended to address the systemic problem of defense offsets. U.S. defense exports with offset agreements in excess of 100 percent are now happening regularly and it is long past time we level the playing field and ensure that our defense workers are no longer in jeopardy of losing their jobs because of their companies' offset arrangements.

The Hunter-Skelton provision is a good first step, and while it doesn't go as far as my Build America amendment does, it should, at the very least, be included within the final version of the Defense Authorization bill.

GROUND MISSILE DEFENSE

Mr. Speaker, the second amendment that I proposed, and which should have been considered today, deals with the need for operational testing and evaluation for a realistic ballistic missile defense system. The commonsense amendment would allow Members of Congress to be on record in support of operational testing before the ground-based system is hastily deployed.

As we all know, this country has already spend in excess of $130 billion chasing the ''Star Wars'' scheme from the Nixon Administration to the current Administration. We have disagreements about the level of funding for ballistic missile defense; about the number of interceptors that should be deployed if the system is ever proven to work; and about how this matter should be prioritized as opposed to other critical threat related defense programs. But Mr. Speaker, no system should be hastily built and recklessly deployed prior to adequate testing.

This is a matter where there should be unanimous agreement. It simply defies common sense that we would stand idle and allow the most expensive item in the Defense Department's $400 billion plus budget before it has been rigorously scrutinized and evaluated. The people of this country have a right to know what they are getting. So far, what they are going to get is a system that has not been consistently or realistically tested in a way that demonstrates it can handle even some of the simplest threats it may encounter.

My colleagues do not have to just take my word on this matter. Allow me to cite just a few of the most recent voices that have weighed in on this matter and arrived at a similar opinion.

In March, the GAO issued a report revealing that the tests that have been completed to date occurred under repetitive and scripted scenarios, fully repeating the same technical and atmospheric conditions over and over again. Critical parts of the system have yet to be flight-tested together.

That report goes on to say that, ''only two flight tests under improved test conditions . . . are planned to be conducted before September 2004.'' It remains unclear, however, if the Missile Defense Agency will even go ahead with these flight tests, or if they will be cancelled or replaced with simulations.

Later in the month of March, 49 generals and admirals, including former Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Admiral William Crowe, Retired United States Air Force General Alfred G. Hansen, and Retired United States Marine Corps General Joseph P. Hoar, wrote to the President that he ''postpone operational deployment of the expensive and untested ground based missile defense system and transfer the associated funding to accelerated programs to secure the multitude of facilities containing nuclear weapons and materials to protect our ports and borders against terrorists who may attempt to smuggle weapons of mass destruction into the United States.''

In plain English, these respected military authorities state some basic facts of life: (1) the system that is now proposed is not only expensive but is largely untested; (2) money being spent on building such an untested system would be better spent accelerating programs that would secure the many nuclear weapons facilities and materials around the world as well as protecting our ports and borders against terrorists who may attempt to smuggle weapons of mass destruction into the United States; and (3) essentially every threat assessment performed for us by intelligence agencies indicate that the latter threat is far more pertinent to the United States than is an attack by a continental ballistic missile.

In April, a General Accounting Office report warned that the system due to be fielded later this year would be ''largely unproven'' because of a lack of realistic testing.

On May 7th, 31 former government officials wrote a letter to President Bush. These officials served under Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Carter, Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and Clinton. They had worked in the Pentagon, the Department of State, National Security Council, Office of Management and Budget, and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agencies. Their letter stated clearly that ''the initial defense capability being advertised by the Missile Defense agency is a sham'' and they recommended that the President ''drop the 2004 deployment and commit instead to a sensible research and development schedule.''

Last week, the Union of Concerned Scientists released a comprehensive report that found, ''no basis for believing that the system will have any capability to defend against a real attack.''

Fielding a system at this time will do little more than foster a false sense of security among the American people misleading our constituents to believe they will be appropriately protected from a ballistic missile attack when the reality is they may not be.

The amendment, quite simply, enforces a 1983 statue, which the Missile Defense Agency has seemingly decided to openly ignore. Without holding the Missile Defense Agency to some standards of independent, realistic operational testing, Congress would not be fulfilling its proper oversight duties.

Mr. Speaker, because the Republican Majority chose to close down debate on this important bill, Members of Congress are missing their opportunity to represent the people of this country in demanding that the Director of the Missile Defense Agency may not proceed with the initial deployment, or any phase thereof, of a ballistic missile defense system until: (1) the Director of Operational Testing and Evaluation of the Department of Defense approves, in writing, the plans for the operational testing to be conducted; (2) the operational testing is completed; (3) the Director analyzes the results of that testing; and (4) the

Director submits a report on the results of that testing to the Secretary of Defense and to the Congressional Defense Committees.

In short, Mr. Speaker, Congress is once again abdicating its responsibilities of oversight of this Administration and marching lockstep with the Administration, wasting billions of dollars (some $10 billion in this budget alone) on a system that military and scientific experts agree is untested, unproven and a sham.

I have to add, Mr. Speaker, that upon my request the General Accounting Office requested a review of some 50 deficiencies in the testing of this ground-based missile defense system that were identified by the former Director of Operational Testing and Evaluation, Mr. Philip Coyle. I had asked the General Accounting Office to determine whether any or which of those issues had been addressed, their current status, their status as anticipated in September 2004 (when the President indicated he intends to start wastefully building this untested project), and the degree of confidence that we might have in such a system if deployed at that time. After incredible resistance in cooperation from the Department of Defense, the report was done some 18 months later. Unfortunately, in keeping with its reputation as the most secretive Administration in history, the Administration—apparently so displeased with the results and conclusions—classified the report. At my further insistence, and again after much resistance, the General Accounting Office was able to produce an unclassified version of the report. That unclassified report, Mr. Speaker, was entirely uncomplimentary of the program and clearly indicated that the program is not ready to be deployed as a working system in which this country could have confidence. The classified version, which went into much greater detail with regards to specifics, should be de-classified. All of the information in it has essentially been known for some time and been the subject of open hearings in this Congress. The information has appeared on numerous web sites at various agency and entity locations. However, the Administration, seemingly so fearful that the actual assessment of this system's sorry state would be known to the public, has actually classified the 50 items pointed out by Mr. Coyle.

Mr. Speaker, given recent history, if the classified report had been at all complimentary we can assume that the Administration would have de-classified it in a nanosecond. As it has not, we might assume the reasons are clear. It is not right that billions of dollars will be misspent at a time when this nation's needs are so great. It is not right that the American people will be presented with false confidence at a time when security concerns are so high. It is not right that so much time, money, and resources will be concentrated on an unproven, unworkable, sham of a system that does not even address what all of our intelligence sources tell us is the primary threat that faces this nation.

Mr. Speaker, from No Child Left Behind to the Sarbanes-Oxley bill concerning accounting reforms, this Congress has not been shy about requiring testing and ensuring accountability. However, it seems when it comes to spending over $10 billion, one of the most expensive items in this year's defense budget, there will be no accountability and testing.

As quoted above, ''the initial defense capability being advertised by the Missile Defense Agency is a sham'' and the President should ''drop the 2004 deployment and commit instead to a sensible research and development schedule.''

This Congress should live up to its responsibilities and insist on that.

NATIONAL TOURETTE SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I introduced House Concurrent Resolution 430 to support the goals and ideals of a National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month.

This resolution recognizes the importance of an early and accurate diagnosis of Tourette Syndrome, appropriate treatment, and educational outreach. In short, it would enhance public awareness of this very misunderstood and often misdiagnosed disease.

Tourette Syndrome, or TS—is an inherited neurobiological disorder that affects children and adults in all racial and ethnic groups. The symptoms of TS are manifested as ''tics''—rapid, repeated, and involuntary movements and sounds. In a large percentage of cases TS is accompanied by other co-occurring disorders, the most common of which are Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and nonverbal learning disabilities.

It is estimated that as many as 200,000 Americans have what is called substantially impairing TS, and more have milder symptoms of the disorder. Many of these individuals endure the stigma, isolation, and the psychological impact of a chronic disorder on a daily basis. There is no cure for this condition, although some individuals benefit from medication and other clinical treatment. Scientific researchers have made some significant advances in recent years in trying to understand the causes of the condition, but many scientific challenges still remain.

Mr. Speaker, in January of this year, the Appropriations Committee I chair appropriated funds for a new research program by the Centers for Disease Control, as well as an educational outreach program. This effort is designed to provide intensive training for the public, physicians, allied healthcare workers and teachers about Tourette Syndrome. It is our hope that this program will begin to remove the stigma and other obstacles associated with living with this complex disorder. I personally have been inspired by meeting many children and adults with Tourette Syndrome who, despite coping with the condition, are wonderfully successful in their own endeavors and provide examples of determination, perseverance and hope to their families and to us all.

Mr. Speaker, the Tourette Syndrome Association, the only national nonprofit membership organization dedicated to identifying the cause, finding a cure, and controlling the effects of Tourette Syndrome, has designated May 15 through June 15 as National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month. The goal of this effort is to educate the public about the nature and effects of TS.

Mr. Speaker, enactment of the legislation I have introduced to recognize National Tourette Syndrome Awareness Month would give all of us an opportunity to familiarize ourselves with the condition. It will help us better understand the impact that TS can have on people living with the disorder, as well as recognize the importance of early diagnosis and proper treatment.

FREEDOM FOR MIGUEL GALVÁN GUTIERREZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Miguel Galván Gutierrez, a prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Galván Gutierrez is an engineer by profession and thus a student of transforming ideas and concepts into concrete reality. As a man who studied how things work, he quickly grasped the broken and irreparable nature of Castro's infernal totalitarian regime. As a prodemocracy activist, Mr. Galván Gutierrez has committed himself to portraying the true horrors of life under the tyrant in Cuba. He has written articles for Havana Press and served as president of the College of Independent Engineers and Architects of Cuba.

As a leading advocate for freedom for every Cuban, Mr. Galván Gutierrez has been constantly harassed by Castro's thugs. According to Amnesty International, he has endured numerous interrogations and short term detentions. On March 18, 2003, Mr. Galván Gutierrez was arrested and he was subsequently ''sentenced'' to 26 years in the totalitarian gulag.

Mr. Galván Gutierrez is languishing in the nightmarish conditions of the totalitarian gulag because he believes in freedom for every Cuban citizen. According to Reporters Without Borders, Mr. Galván Gutierrez is suffering from abdominal and joint pain, together with an inflammation of the feet and a paralyzed arm. Reporters Without Borders has also reported that Mr. Galván Gutierrez was put in solitary confinement and deprived of water and light because he staged hunger strikes to protest the inhuman conditions in the totalitarian gulag.

Mr. Speaker, today is May 20 and on this day, 102 years ago, the Cuban people obtained their independence; the Republic of Cuba was born. Today the Cuban people, led by heroic activists such as Mr. Galván Gutierrez, continue to fight for freedom. It is my fervent hope that next year, on May 20, the Cuban people will be able to celebrate the anniversary of Cuba's independence and also celebrate the return of freedom to that long suffering island.

Mr. Speaker, we must constantly demand freedom for the Cuban people. My Colleagues, today, on Cuban Independence Day, we must demand the immediate release of Miguel Galván Gutierrez and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

HONORING WORKS OF CHATTANOOGA BAR ASSOCIATION AND CHATTANOOGA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I arise today to honor the works of the Chattanooga Bar Association and the Chattanooga Human Rights Commission in my hometown of Chattanooga, Tennessee and join them in celebrating the CBA's upcoming Law Day Luncheon on May 24, 2004. Law Day, USA is set aside each year on May 1st by a joint resolution of Congress and Presidential proclamation as an occasion for honoring the place of law in our lives. It is not a national holiday, nor is it a ''lawyer's day.'' Instead, Law Day is an occasion for all Americans to learn more about our law, our legal system, and our rights. It is also a day to reflect on our legal heritage, our responsibilities as citizens, and the principles of our democratic government. Law Day has been a vital part of American life for several generations. Law Day has celebrated our great heritage of liberty, justice and equality under law since it was first proclaimed in 1958 by President Eisenhower. Law Day gives us the opportunity to reflect on how the law protects and guides America's quest for equal justice and equal opportunity, just as it permits us to express our opinions, select our leaders, worship where we choose, and pursue our livelihood. Thanks to the freedoms guaranteed by our Constitution, and protected by our laws and courts, we Americans have the opportunity—unmatched anywhere in the world—to develop our capabilities to the fullest.

This year, the Chattanooga Bar Association and the Human Rights Commission will celebrate the 50th anniversary of one of the United States Supreme Court's most important cases. Brown v. Board of Education, decided on May 17, 1954, changed the civil rights landscape in America forever. Brown showed that resolute citizens, served by dedicated lawyers, can strike powerful blows against social injustice through law and courts.

On May 24th, the Chattanooga Bar Association will honor the legal community of Chattanooga, Tennessee with their annual Law Day Luncheon. The featured speaker is Cheryl Brown Henderson. Mrs. Henderson is one of the children of the late Reverend Oliver Brown, namesake of the landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision of 1954. During the luncheon, the Chattanooga Bar Association will honor James R. Mapp with the 2005 ''Liberty Bell Award.'' This award, given to a person who is not in the legal profession, is one of the CBA's highest honors. The purpose of the ''Liberty Bell Award'' is to recognize community service that has strengthened the American system of freedom under law. In selecting the recipient of this award, the Chattanooga Bar Association considers activities which: (1) promote a better understanding of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights; (2) encourage a greater respect for the law and the courts; (3) stimulate a deeper sense of individual responsibility so that citizens recognize their duties as well as their rights; (4) contribute to the effective functioning of our institutions of governments; and (5) foster a better understanding and appreciation of the rule of law. I ask all Members of the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating James R. Mapp for his contributions to the Chattanooga community.

The winners of the Law Day Essay Contest, which is open to all Hamilton County, private and home school students, grades 9–12, are: 1st place winning the $2000 college scholarship is Lindsay Frost of Girls Preparatory School. The Second place winner is Stephanie Liu of Girls Preparatory School. The Law Day poetry contest is open to all Third through Fifth graders of the same demographics. Winning 1st place is Caroline Holloway of St. Peter's Episcopal School; 2nd place is Chris Cooper of St. Peter's Episcopal School. The Law Day art contest is open to all Kindergarten through Second graders of the same demographics. Winning 1st place is Sloan Lewis of St. Peter's Episcopal School; winning 2nd place is Lauren Hood of St. Peter's Episcopal School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in thanking the Board of Governors of the Chattanooga Bar Association for their contributions and commitment to the legal profession and to the Chattanooga community. The members of the Board of Governors Executive Committee are: Lynda Minks-Hood, Executive Director; Alan L. Cates, President; Michael K. Alston, President-elect; Joseph R. White, Secretary-Treasurer; Honorable Rebecca J. Stern, Immediate Past President. Board members include: Marcia J. Eason, Steven W. Grant, James M. Haley, IV, Wade A. Hinton, Steven M. Jacoway, Jason L. Thomas and John M. Phillips.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF ABIGAIL BURKE IRWIN

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Abigail Burke Irwin. Abigail Burke Irwin has been called a fighter, an inspiration, ''a one-woman community.'' I knew her because she was my wife's sister, the mother of my two nephews, and the wife of my friend and colleague Burke Irwin. In her short life of 46 years, Abby touched the lives of many people and made an indelible mark. But it was in her last 13 years when she struggled so valiantly against breast cancer that she truly came into her own.

She refused against all odds to give up her fight for life. But more importantly, she used the time she was given to reach out and help others who were also suffering. She packed more into her short life than most people who live to be twice her age. She started a breast cancer support group and founded a local chapter of an advocacy group for Asperger's Syndrome. She was an active and involved mother and community member. Saddled with mounting medical bills for constant chemotherapy and surgeries, she made wooden furniture to sell, and later, when she was too weak, she created jewelry and other crafts.

In the end, she willed herself to live, right up to several days before her death on April 29, 2004, when she rallied her family to a backyard picnic on one of the first warm spring days. She wore a bright red hat and coat—red was her favorite color—and she seemed so happy to be alive and in the midst of her loving family.

Breast cancer affects so many lives. It is the leading cause of cancer deaths for women worldwide. We must be determined to continue the fight for increased access to health care and prevention for all women, for continued funding of breast cancer research and for extending Medicare to cover all cancer drugs.

Abby Irwin spent much of her precious time and energy dealing with a flawed health care system, trying to keep ahead of her bills, struggling with the complexities and inadequacies of health insurance. We could not save her life, but hopefully we can save other women from having to deal with the difficulties she faced.

Abby was a fighter, but she never fought only for herself. She always reached out to help others struggling with life's difficulties. Ever the optimist, Abby never liked to report just the bad news. She always added something good. The bad news for her many friends and family members is that Abby has left us. The good news is that because of her strength and courage, her legacy—and her fight—will live on.

NEUQUA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT GRAMMY SIGNATURE SCHOOL AWARD WINNER

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Neuqua Valley High School's Music Department. Recently, the Neuqua team was named as one of the top high school music departments in the country by the GRAMMY Foundation's 2004 Signature Schools program.

Neuqua Valley High School was chosen out of 20,000 public high schools from across the country. The GRAMMY Foundation judged applicants on the basis of sample concert programs, repertoire, and recordings of school concerts. In recognition of its achievement, the music department will receive a $5,000 check from the GRAMMY Foundation.

Being honored for excellence in music is nothing new to Neuqua Valley High School. Although the school opened its doors only 7 years ago, this is the second straight year, and the third time overall, that its music department has been recognized by the GRAMMY Foundation as part of the Signature Schools program.

But Neuqua Valley High School's successes are not confined to its great music department. During the current school year, students have earned a number of honors for academic and athletic achievements, including the state championship for the boy's soccer team, National Scholastic Arts Competition scores for four students, National Merit Scholarship awards for two outstanding students.

Congratulations, Neuqua Valley High School, for the outstanding achievements of the boys and girls and men and women of your excellent music department and for all of

your other outstanding accomplishments. You have our best wishes for continued success in all you do.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GREAT LAKES PROTECTION AND RESTORATION COMMITTEE ACT

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce legislation that will move our Nation forward with increased environmental protection and restoration of the Great Lakes—the Great Lakes Protection and Restoration Committee Act.

The Great Lakes are a national treasure that we need to protect and restore. They contain 95 percent of our nation's surface freshwater, provide drinking water to millions of people and form the backbone for billions of dollars in shipping, trade, fishing and recreation. Progress has been made in improving environmental conditions in the Great Lakes Basin, but the lakes continue to face many threats, including pollution from contaminated sediments, stormwater and agricultural runoff, the introduction of invasive species, wetlands and coastal habitat loss, and pollutants washed into the lakes from the atmosphere.

While several federal, state, provincial and local programs have been developed to address these problems, these strategies are not well coordinated. According to an April 2003 GAO Report, ''no one overarching strategy or plan unifies these strategies in the pursuit of a common goal. . . An overarching strategy for the basin is needed to establish restoration goals, outline how restoration will occur, identify the resources needed to achieve restoration, assign accountability for restoration, and provide a mechanism for measuring progress for achieving goals.''

This week, President Bush signed an Executive Order that establishes a task force to improve the coordination of federal agency efforts and to reach out to state, local, and private partners to develop consistent policies and strategies for Great Lakes restoration. I strongly support the action taken by President Bush, EPA Administrator Leavitt, and Council on Environmental Quality Chairman Connaughton because it will help bring collaboration among the broad collection of existing resources and programs in the region.

Next we need comprehensive legislation to continue to move us forward. The Great Lakes Protection and Restoration Committee Act will provide a path forward by bringing together all of the stakeholders in the basin, led by the Great Lakes State governors with the aid of relevant federal agency officials, tribal representatives, scientific experts and environmental and industry stakeholders. The Committee created by the legislation will develop a specific and comprehensive strategy for the purpose of protecting, preserving and restoring the Great Lakes.

Specifically, the task force will:

Assess accomplishments from current programs over the past 10 years;

Analyze the prospects for achieving restoration goals under current programs and authorities for the next 10 years;

Prioritize restoration goals identified by the Great Lakes governors;

Develop specific, measurable benchmarks for achieving those goals;

Recommend legislative options for obtaining such additional authority and funding as are necessary to achieve those goals;

Suggest methods to improve coordination among the existing federal, state, provincial, local, and non-governmental programs operating in the Great Lakes; and

Report to Congress and the President in one year on its findings and recommendations.

My goal is that the task force will develop a comprehensive, strategic protection and restoration program to bring together and coordinate the plethora of smaller programs that we have in place now.

This serious and measured approach mirrors the steps taken in other large ecosystem restoration projects such as the Everglades and Chesapeake Bay. Due to the complexity of those restoration initiatives, which cross over many jurisdictional lines, environmental challenges and scientific disciplines, it was essential to have an overall strategic plan in place to guide activities and funding decisions over long periods of time. The Great Lakes Basin is significantly larger and the environmental challenges substantially more complex than in those ecosystems. We need an overarching strategy in place to accomplish our vision to protect and restore the lakes.

A lack of adequate funding is certainly an impediment to successful cleanup efforts, but improved program coordination and operation under a comprehensive strategic plan is an essential first step. The Great Lakes Protection and Restoration Committee Act will move Great Lakes restoration forward to help protect and clean up this global treasure. I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL, MR. MOSHE KATSAV, AT THE PRESIDENT'S PALACE IN BERLIN, APRIL 28, 2004

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I recently attended the Conference on Anti-Semitism of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Berlin from April 28–29, 2004. I was privileged to attend as part of the official U.S. delegation, in my capacity as the Ranking Member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), commonly known as the Helsinki Commission. I was pleased to give a speech at the Berlin Conference, after visiting the concentration camps in Auschwitz, on the importance of fighting intolerance and speaking out against acts of anti-Semitism. Secretary of State Colin Powell attended the Conference and spoke forcefully about the need to combat anti-Semitism. Mr. LANTOS of California, the Ranking Member of the International Relations Committee, has already introduced Secretary Powell's statement into the RECORD. The 55 Participating States of the OSCE adopted a strong action plan, the Berlin Declaration, which lays out specific steps for states to take regarding Holocaust education, data collection and monitoring of hate crimes against Jews, and improved coordination between non-governmental organizations and European law enforcement agencies.

During our Conference, on the evening of April 28, President Johannes Rau of Germany hosted a dinner for the President of the State of Israel Moshe Katsav. President Katsav spoke powerfully about the need to combat the rising tide of anti-Semitism throughout the world. Let me just highlight one section of President Katsav's remarks:

> The violence against the Jews in Europe is evidence that anti-Semitism, which we have not known since the Second World War, is on the rise. This trend of the new anti-Semitism is a result of the aggressive propaganda, made possible by modern technologies, globalization and abuse of democracy and which creates an infrastructure for developing and increasing anti-Semitism, of a kind we have not known before * * * Many times I have heard voices saying that anti-Semitism is not unique and that it is no different from other kinds of racism. Anti-Semitism should indeed receive special attention. Hatred against the Jews has existed for many generations and it is rooted in many cultures and continents through the world. However, now anti-Semitism has become an instrument for achieving political aims * * * The genocide of the Jews was the result of anti-Semitism and was not caused by a war between countries or a territorial conflict and, therefore, anti-Semitism is a special danger for world Jewry and the whole of Europe.

Let me draw my colleagues attention to a particularly important part of the Berlin Declaration, in which the OSCE participating States ''declare[d] unambiguously that international development of political issues, including those in Israel or elsewhere in the Middle East, never justify anti-Semitism.'' Let me be clear that I am not seeking to suppress legitimate criticism of Israel, just as I would not seek to silence those who criticize the policies of the U.S. Government. However, when individuals criticize the very existence of the Jewish state, equate Zionism with racism, and compare the Israeli Government to the Nazi regime, then all of us must say together: this is anti-Semitism, and you have crossed the line.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the full text of the Israeli President's remarks at the President's Palace in Berlin be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to read President Katsav's thoughtful remarks.

ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL, MR. MOSHE KATSAV, AT THE PRESIDENT'S PALACE IN BERLIN

Mr. President, Ministers, Distinguished Guests, Heads of Delegations:

It is very difficult and sad for me to stand here today in Berlin, 60 years after the Holocaust and to speak about anti-Semitism and the ways of fighting against it.

We, world Jewry, believed that after the terrible events of the Holocaust, it would not be necessary to struggle against anti-Semitism.

We believed that the world would not allow anti-Semitism to raise its head.

We believed that anti-Semitism belonged to the old world and to distant history.

We very much appreciate this gathering in Berlin. This step to fight anti-Semitism sends a very important message that this issue has a significant place in the European

agenda, in the relations between Israel and Europe and between Europe and world Jewry. It is a sign that the security of Jews touches directly basic human values.

I am standing here as a representative of a nation which suffered a great deal during many generations of exiles, inquisition and the terrible Holocaust-Shoah.

I represent a nation which desires to live in peace without fear, without bloodshed, without incitement and without violence.

I am standing here as a citizen of a democratic and free world which is committed to the values of freedom, equality, to universal values which oppose anti-Semitism.

Anti-Semitism is a big tragedy for the Jewish people. It is a moral and historic failure for humanity. It is a failure of world leaders. It is a failure of the free world.

If humanity does not express determination and does not learn the historical lesson, the Holocaust will not remain an abstract issue for the next generation.

Among international leaders, no one in 1933 believed that the Holocaust would happen and, not even at the beginning of the war in 1939. It is very difficult to believe but the Holocaust happened in the heart of Europe, in one of the most sophisticated countries in the world, which had the best musicians, philosophers, scientists and researchers in the world.

Lately we are witnessing again the burning of synagogues and Jewish schools, the desecration of Jewish cemeteries and horrible writings.

Jews are again afraid to walk in the streets with a Star of David and a yarmulke. Jewish children are again a target of violence and the streets of Europe are again not safe for Jews, only because they are Jews.

Jews, as individuals and as a collective, are a target of physical and emotional violence.

Hostile letters, graffiti and the use of the Internet and the media are examples of instruments against the Jews.

For a long time Europe denied the rise in anti-Semitism.

The problem is not just the physical violence and damage caused to Jewish institutions. We are concerned about the hostility and incitement against the Jews and Israel in Europe.

There are some who blame the Jews for an international conspiracy and even blame them for the terrorist acts of September 11th. They accuse American Jews of cooperating with Israel in blaming Islam for these terrorist attacks.

We are witnessing a new trend by radical Muslims who are recreating the classical blood libel and who are publishing again the ''Protocols of the Elders of Zion'' which claim that the Jews aim to control the world.

For others, the new anti-Semitism is a way of criticizing the Jews and Israel for their treatment of the Palestinian people.

In Europe the rise in classical anti-Semitism, represents the Jews and the Jewish state as brutal devils, the source of wars and responsible for global disasters.

It is difficult for us to believe, but recently the public opinion polls which were initiated by the European Commission show that a majority of Europeans believe Israel is a danger for the stability and peace in the world.

Not the non-democratic countries which are trying to develop and achieve mass destruction weapons, not the totalitarian countries which back terrorist organizations, not the brutal bloodshed in the name of God, not poverty but we, Israel, are a danger for world peace in the eyes of some European people.

The violence against the Jews in Europe is evidence that anti-Semitism, which we have not known since the Second World War, is on the rise. This trend of the new anti-Semitism is a result of the aggressive propaganda, made possible by modern technologies, globalization and abuse of democracy and which creates an infrastructure for developing and increasing anti-Semitism, of a kind we have not known before.

Millions and millions of people are exposed to television programs and Internet sites full of blood libels.

The silence, the closing of eyes and the slow reactions in some countries permit this incitement to become deeper and stronger.

It is impossible to fight against anti-Semitism, while permitting the demonization of Israel and its leaders and denying its legitimate right to exist.

During the last decade we took historical steps towards the Palestinian people. I would like to mention the Oslo Agreement, the Camp David conference and the acceptance of the Roadmap but during the last ten years we have had not even one quiet day and we suffered from brutal and terrible bloodshed.

Sometimes we feel that Europeans are not ready to feel solidarity with us or to recognize the suffering of the Israeli people from the terrible terrorism, which has continued for many years.

The brutality of the terrorism in the Middle East is of a type that humanity has never seen before.

It is only by cooperation, with determination and with leadership that we can overcome this hatred.

We are astonished that there are still people who deny the Holocaust.

The Durban Conference in September 2001 shocked all of us. It was meant to be a conference against racism but became a meeting of racists against the Jews and the State of Israel.

The anti-Semitism in Europe is a result of the cooperation among elements who are against the West and western values, who are against globalization and against progress, as well as extremists from the left and right and from organizations of radical Muslims.

The world of Islam is very large. There are more than a billion people who are not of one mind and opinion. There are some Muslim countries which have diplomatic relations with Israel, such as Turkey, Egypt, the Hashemite Kingdom, the Muslim Republics in Central Asia, Persian Gulf countries and others. Not all Muslims are anti-Semitic and there is no conflict between Judaism and Islam. In Europe there are 20 million Muslims. Most of them are very good people who desire to live calm and normal lives. However, they are afraid to raise their voices against the extremists. I call on the moderate Muslims in Europe and on their leaders to cooperate with us in encouraging tolerance and understanding for a free and better world.

However, we must still remember that there are still Muslim countries and organizations which are calling for the destruction of the State of Israel.

Anti-Semitism is encouraged and is given inspiration by international terrorism.

Anti-Semitism is a great danger to democracy and freedom in the world.

Where synagogues are burnt, the day will come when stones will be thrown on parliament and democracy is in danger.

Fighting against anti-Semitism with determination will deliver a strong message to the international terrorist organizations and will be a message that the free world has determination to defend its values and is not prepared to tolerate anti-Semitism, hostility and racism.

Anti-Semitism has no justification, no legitimacy and should not be shown any understanding. Anti-Semitism is a great threat to freedom. It uses human morality, democracy and liberalism for its destructive aims.

Black people are not responsible for the racism against them just as the Jews are not responsible for anti-Semitism.

We had hoped that the creation of a Jewish State would help prevent anti-Semitism. We desired to be a free nation in our homeland, like all nations. The Jewish state is a national home for every Jew and we want to be sure that never again will Jews be unprotected.

We are shocked by the accusations, which compare Israel to Nazi Germany. There is a linkage between this incitement and the violence against Jews in the streets of Europe.

We do not want to prevent legitimate political criticism against Israeli government policy, but we will not tolerate incitement against world Jewry and the Jewish state.

Many times I have heard voices saying that anti-Semitism is not unique and that it is no different from other kinds of racism. Anti-Semitism should indeed receive special attention. Hatred against the Jews has existed for many generations and it is rooted in many cultures and continents throughout the world.

However, now anti-Semitism has become an instrument for achieving political aims. It is being used by Muslims as an instrument to achieve political gains.

The genocide of the Jews was the result of anti-Semitism and was not caused by a war between countries or a territorial conflict and, therefore, anti-Semitism is a special danger for world Jewry and the whole of Europe.

Can it be that the impact of the Holocaust is not strong enough to stop and prevent anti-Semitism? Can it be that the impact of the Holocaust has become weaker in the last decades?

We must focus all our efforts, energies and wisdom on educational activities and research on the Holocaust. We must transmit the lesson of the Holocaust to the young generations.

I call to continue researching and documenting all the events relating to the Holocaust.

We must teach the young generation human values.

I call on the European leaders to increase the awareness of anti-Semitic acts in their countries, to research the origin and background in each country and to evaluate anti-Semitism on a national level.

I call for a mechanism for monitoring and controlling anti-Semitic events and for ways to fight them.

I call for increased cooperation between the countries and law enforcement authorities, in fighting anti-Semitism in Europe.

I call for legislation to prevent anti-Semitism, especially in the Internet and via satellite programs.

I call for a meeting of professionals from all over the world to set up a program and take real steps against anti-Semitism.

I greatly appreciate European governments and leaders who are fighting against anti-Semitism and I very much appreciate this important gathering in Berlin.

Most European countries have close relations with the Arab countries which are responsible for producing incitement and anti-Semitic propaganda on television, in books and in newspapers which are distributed in Europe and around the world.

We must put pressure on such countries to stop the distribution of such terrible incitement against the Jews.

It is not enough to talk against anti-Semitism. We must act.

I believe that European countries wish to do as much as possible to stop anti-Semitism and give security to their Jewish citizens.

European leaders have done a lot lately but not enough. It is necessary to do more in the fields of education, public opinion, legislation and law enforcement.

At this time, we the Jews are not alone. I can see many good friends here who are standing with us. I am aware of many people, nations and leaders who are struggling against anti-Semitism, as they understand that anti-Semitism is a danger to the stability and peace in the world, to human values.

I am aware of European governments who are our partners in our efforts and concern to provide security for every Jew and they understand that Jews have the right to live without fear anywhere.

I appreciate the governments in Europe who have already appointed special ministerial committees for fighting anti-Semitism. I appreciate countries whose parliaments dedicated special sessions on the issue of anti-Semitism.

I appreciate those countries who have decided to strongly condemn anti-Semitism in international bodies.

Indeed, now at the beginning of the 21st century, the situation is very serious. There is an increase in violence and an escalation of anti-Semitism against the Jews but there is a big difference. We are not living in the thirties. We have a Jewish, sovereign and independent state and this makes a big difference.

We know what happened in the Second World War and what racism brought upon the world and, because of this I am very pleased that there is more awareness. Now leaders are more sensitive and they protect their citizens. There is legislation and law enforcement in many countries. The leaders speak out and there are many seminars and conferences against anti-Semitism. The strong position of the United States of America in this matter is remarkable. I also very much appreciate the position of the Vatican on this difficult and tragic issue.

I am very sorry that the Irish proposal to the United Nations General Assembly in December 2003, was not adopted, because of the objection of some Muslim countries. It is very sad that a special resolution which condemns anti-Semitism and attacks against Jews cannot be passed now in the United Nations.

The European Union should continue its efforts in this important initiative and in all multilateral organizations, in fighting against anti-Semitism.

We are very proud of our Jewish heritage and history. It is a source of pride for world Jewry. I hope that the Jewish people will also be a source of appreciation, understanding and respect and not a target for hatred.

I hope and pray for cooperation for development, prosperity and tolerance instead of destruction, bloodshed and hatred.

I would like to thank, you, President Rau and Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer for this important initiative. I believe that this meeting will be very constructive and that it will help us achieve our mutual goals.

I hope that the Berlin Conference will serve as a basis for continued efforts against anti-Semitism.

I wish to express my personal appreciation to President Rau for his wise and moral leadership, for his great friendship towards Israel and the Jewish people, and his personal dedication to the fight against anti-Semitism.

We have the strength and the will to create a better world, a just world for all humanity. Let us put all our efforts together to make it possible. Let us work together.

Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO GLEN DOUGLAS

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Master Sergeant Glen Douglas' sacrifice and service to our nation, which spanned twenty-two years and three wars, the first of which was World War II.

Glen Douglas is one of the most decorated veterans in our region, having received the Distinguished Service Medal and seven purple hearts among other honors.

The following excerpts from the May 4th, 2004 weekly edition of the Colville Statesman Examiner are a testament to the sacrifice, courage, commitment and leadership Mr. Douglas displayed throughout the course of his service.

Douglas's service to our country first began as an infantryman in Europe with the 101st Airborne (Screaming Eagles) in 1944 and then in the occupation army with the U.S. Constabulary. Douglas then served in the Korean War with the U.S. 2nd (Indianhead) Infantry Division from 1950–1953 before he was med-evacuated after being wounded for the eighth time. In the incidents prior when he had been wounded and evacuated, he would be taken as far as Japan before he would disappear from the hospital, get clothes and take a boat back to his Infantry Division. ''I would get very angry having somebody else lead the men and lose them.'' Douglas said, ''I hardly ever lost a man when I was leading. After being wounded for the eighth time, Douglas nearly lost his legs and spent four years, four months and twenty-six days in the Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver before he was released. He was told he would never walk again. But Douglas had his own ideas. ''I was released December 23, 1957'' Douglas remembered. By 1959, ''I was jumping out of airplanes again.'' Douglas served two tours in Vietnam with the Special Forces (Green Beret) and then again with the highly classified Studies and Operations Group before retiring after twenty-two years of service.

I was pleased to learn that Mr. Douglas was recently selected by fellow veterans from local chapters of the American Legion, VFW, and Marine Corps League to receive an all expense paid trip to Washington D.C. in order to represent them during the upcoming dedication of the National World War II Memorial later this month.

The Memorial is a fitting tribute to the great courage and selfless dedication of soldiers who fought in the Second World War and as we approach Memorial Day, I encourage my colleagues to reflect on the great sacrifices of men like Glen Douglas.

IN HONOR OF THE MILE SQUARE DAY CARE CENTER ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mile Square Day Care Center in celebration of its 25th anniversary. The Mile Square Day Care Center will celebrate with a 25th Anniversary Celebration Reception on Thursday, May 20, 2004, at The Lighthouse in West New York, New Jersey.

In 1977, a group of dedicated community minded people, with the help and guidance of Mayor Steve Cappiello, established a not-for-profit corporation to develop and run programs for young children. And through the hard work of the original board of directors, Hugh Kilmer, James Monaco, Dr. Frank Colon, Dr. Gerard Costa; and Charles A. Tortorella, the Mile Square Day Care Center was established in 1979.

In order to maintain the balance of community and parent involvement, the board of directors, since its inception, has consisted of an equal number of community members and parents. The original board of directors developed an environment that was nurturing and loving to the children. With the wide range of social, economic, and cultural groups, the activities in the Mile Square Day Care Center represented and continue to represent the diversity of its children and the city.

For twenty-five years, the Mile Square Day Care Center has touched the lives of over 3,000 families, providing the first preschool program in the City of Hoboken. Established in 1982 by former Executive Director Rosemary Fuocco, the Mile Square Day Care Center also began providing infant and toddler care for children ages three months to three years, and continues to provide preschool service for children three to five years of age. With a curriculum established with a hands-on approach, each child is given the opportunity to reach his or her intellectual and social potential.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the community leaders and dedicated parents, past and present, of the Mile Square Day Care Center, in recognition of their outstanding contributions and dedication to our children over the last twenty-five years.

TRIBUTE TO A.W. PICKEL, III, UPON THE COMPLETION OF HIS TENURE AS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MORTGAGE BROKERS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, A.W. Pickel, III, of Lenexa, Kansas, will soon be completing a distinguished tenure as President of the National Association of Mortgage Brokers (NAMB) and the Kansas Association of Mortgage Brokers. NAMB provides invaluable services for the mortgage broker industry which originates two out of three home loans in the country. It is the voice of the mortgage broker industry, with more than 16,000 members in all 50 states.

As you know, home ownership is at an all time record rate largely due to the contributions of mortgage brokers; through his involvement in NAMB, A.W. Pickel has been instrumental in shaping housing policy in this country.

A.W. Pickel, III, was the founding president of the Kansas Association of Mortgage Brokers and still serves as an active ex-officio member of the Kansas Association of Mortgage Brokers' Board of Directors. In 1999, the

Kansas Association named him Broker of the Year. He is president and CEO of Leader Mortgage Company in Lenexa, Kansas, which is in my congressional district. Leader Mortgage Company also has offices in Dallas, Texas; Des Moines; Iowa; Nashville, Tennessee; Topeka, Kansas; and Pittsburg, Kansas.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to commend A.W. Pickel for his contributions to his profession and involvement in his community and dedication to his wife Diane and daughters, Lara, Alissa, Jessica, and Rebecca. I join with the residents of the entire Third Congressional District of Kansas in applauding A.W. Pickel, III, for his successful tenure as President of NAMB and in wishing him continued success in all future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I was detained and was not able to cast my vote on Rollcall #195, passage of H. Con. Res. 424, Honoring past and current members of the Armed Forces of the United States and encouraging Americans to wear red poppies on Memorial Day. Had I been present I would have voted "aye".

REPLANTING OF TREE MEMORIALIZING THE LATE REPRESENTATIVE JOSEPH TAGGART OF KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the honor of working with the Architect of the Capitol to replant on the east Capitol grounds a pin oak memorializing the late U.S. Representative Joe Taggart of Kansas City, Kansas.

Representative Joe Taggart was elected three times to Congress from a House district including Kansas City, Kansas—in a 1911 special election, and then in regular elections in 1912 and 1914. Born in rural Iowa in 1867, Joe Taggart moved to Kansas during his childhood and graduated from Salina Normal University in 1890; after teaching school for two years in Bavaria, Kansas, he was admitted to the practice of law in 1893 in Salina, moving shortly thereafter to Kansas City. Taggart served as Kansas City's prosecuting attorney from 1907–1911, when he was elected as a Democrat to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Alexander Mitchell. Twice re-elected, he was defeated in 1916. During the First World War, Taggart served in the quartermaster corps of the United States Army. After the war, he resumed private law practice in Kansas City and was appointed judge of the Kansas Court of Industrial Relations in 1924. Joe Taggart died in Wadsworth, Kansas, in 1938 and is buried in Atchison.

In approximately 1916, Representative Taggart and his family planted a pin oak in his honor on the east lawn of the Capitol. The Architect of the Capitol has generously provided me with several prints of photos of that event. This tree survived, although in declining condition, until the area was leveled in order to construct the Capitol Visitors' Center. The staff of the Architect of the Capitol, led by Senior Landscape Architect and Horticulturist Matthew Evans, recently planted here on the Capitol grounds, near Independence Avenue, Southeast, a young pin oak to replace the earlier Taggart memorial tree. I also want to acknowledge the generous support of the Kansas Society of Washington, D.C.; thanks to the support of the Society's current president Heather Wingate and past presidents David Kensinger and Alan Sobba, the Kansas Society donated the cost of the new tree.

The replanting of the Joseph Taggart memorial tree serves as a small reminder of the state of Kansas on the grounds of our U.S. Capitol and I am pleased to have been a part of this event.

IN HONOR OF SAINT ANTHONY HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the Congress and the nation to a story of excellence so rare that it deserves the attention of all who believe the human spirit is capable of overcoming even the greatest of odds.

This story is being written at Saint Anthony High School, a small school in downtown Jersey City whose motto is "to be all that you can be." While neither the school nor its students possess great financial resources, they are both blessed with the heart of champions.

The latest chapter of this story culminated when the Saint Anthony High School boys' basketball team won this year's New Jersey state championship with a stunning 67–55 win over Bloomfield Tech to cap a remarkable undefeated (30–0) season. With this victory, Saint Anthony High School tied a national record by winning its 24th state championship.

The team's legendary coach, Bob Hurley, has now produced an undefeated team in each of his four decades of coaching (1974, 1989, 1996, 2004).

Since Saint Anthony High School does not have a gym, the boys' basketball team has been forced to practice at a rented facility. Nevertheless, in 32 years of coaching, Hurley has compiled an amazing 826–92 record against high-caliber competition—winning an incredible 90 percent of his games.

Hurley has coached dozens of players who went on to become NCAA All-Americans and NBA stars. More importantly, he has taken thousands of boys and turned them into champions, both on and off the court. In 32 years, all but one of his players went to college.

Coach Hurley has gone on record about this undefeated 2004 team—calling them the best defensive team he's ever coached. That, I assure you Mr. Speaker, is saying something.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Coach Bob Hurley and the State Champion 2004 Saint Anthony High School boys' basketball team in recognition of their commitment to excellence both on and off the court and for their continuing inspiration to us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of Monday, May 17, 2004, the House had votes on H. Con. Res. 420, H. Con. Res. 423 and H. Con. Res. 403. On House roll call votes #177, #178 and #179, I was unavoidably detained at the airport. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on each.

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during National Small Business Week to recognize Dr. Sam Rainey, the founder and owner the Family Pet Clinic, a small business located in my Congressional District. Dr. Rainey runs a successful veterinary clinic in Denton, Texas that employ seven North Texans—and he plans to hire another person very soon.

It is small businesses like the Family Pet Clinic that are driving America's economy today. They create the majority of new jobs and account for half of the economy's private output. In 2002, 99.7 percent of all businesses were small businesses.

Small businesses have had an enormous impact on innovation and progress in America. Historically, the bulk of breakthrough products emerged from small businesses. Small firms produce 13 to 14 times more patents per employee than large companies.

The 108th Congress has passed a number of initiatives to bolster small businesses including the Jobs and Growth Reconciliation Act of 2003 which included a provision that tripled the amount that small businesses can immediately expense and increased bonus depreciation for the purchase of capital equipment.

In addition to fiscally helping small businesses, the House of Representatives passed Association Health Plan legislation that would enable small businesses, of similar trade and profession, to pool their employees for better health care coverage benefits. By joining together, small employers will enjoy greater bargaining power, economies of scale and administrative efficiencies.

In conclusion, as we celebrate National Small Business Week, congratulate Dr. Sam Riley and his thriving small business and urge the U.S. Senate to show their support of America's small businesses by passing initiatives, like association health plans, that are important to small businesses and their employees.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL JOHN B. O'DOWD

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel John B. O'Dowd for his outstanding work and leadership in the New York District of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. His tenure as Chief Engineer has been one of exceptional work and dedication.

Colonel O'Dowd assumed command of the New York District of the United States Army Corps of Engineers in July 2001. Since his appointment, Colonel O'Dowd has brought great leadership, focus, and passion to his position. Responsible for the water resource development, navigation, and regulatory activities in parts of New Jersey, New York, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, Colonel O'Dowd has led by example and has worked tirelessly to achieve his objective.

Prior to his position with the Army Corps of Engineers, Colonel O'Dowd commanded and served as Executive Officer of the 30th Engineer Battalion at Fort Bragg. He also served as Executive Officer for the Engineer Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division in the Republic of Korea, and was assigned as the Operations Officer for the 20th Engineer Brigade during Operation ''Uphold Democracy'' in Haiti.

For his distinguished work and military service, Colonel O'Dowd has received numerous awards and citations, including the Meritorious Service Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and the Master Parachutist Badge.

Colonel O'Dowd received his bachelor's degree from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1978 and a Master's Degree from John Hopkins University in Environmental Engineering in 1989. He is also a loving husband to his wife and dedicated father to his three children.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Colonel John B. O'Dowd for his outstanding leadership, courage, and service to this great country. He will be greatly missed as he leaves the New York District of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. It has been an honor and a pleasure to have worked with him the last three years and I wish him all the best in his new assignment in Afghanistan.

TRIBUTE TO ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ON THEIR 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Associated Builders and Contractors of Southern California as they celebrate their 30th Anniversary.

The Associated Builders and Contractors of Southern California was established in 1974 with 78 charter members to assist businesses large and small with the necessary skills to become a successful operation. Providing their members with management leadership skills and safety training, the Associated Builders and Contractors of Southern California have created an industry with high standards and quality employees.

Founded on the belief of the free enterprise system, the Associated Builders and Contractors of Southern California actively promote the Merit Shop Philosophy whereby contractors pay, promote and recognize their employees based on individual merit. It is this philosophy and their commitment to providing employees with adequate wages, benefits and safe working conditions that has made this association a pioneer in the construction industry.

Recognizing the valuable contributions to the industry and the community, I would like to congratulate the Associated Builders and Contractors of Southern California on their anniversary of thirty successful years.

TO CALL ATTENTION TO THE HIGH PRICE OF GAS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the increasing pressure rising gas prices are placing on the constituents of Ohio's tenth district, and consumers around the country.

Today, I received a petition, presented to me by WEWS Television Station in Cleveland, Ohio, from those in the Cleveland area who are being harmed by the recent spikes in gas prices. This petition, with over 14,000 signatures, is evidence of the strains placed on consumers in an already bleak economic market. To address these concerns, I, along with 67 other members of the House of Representatives, am sending a letter to President Bush expressing my concerns.

Effectively addressing high gasoline prices will take six steps—none of which are included in the energy legislation.

First, require oil companies to expand gasoline storage capacities, require them to hold significant amounts in that storage, and reserve the right to order these companies to release this stored gas to address supply and demand fluctuations.

Second, block mergers that make it easier for oil companies to manipulate gasoline supplies, and take steps, such as forcing companies to sell assets, to remedy the current highly concentrated market.

Third, re-regulate energy trading exchanges that were exploited by Enron and continue to be abused by other energy traders.

Fourth, discontinue filling the Strategic Petroleum Reserve while prices are high and conduct a study of building crude and product reserves that can be used as economic stockpiles to dampen price increases.

Fifth, reduce oil consumption by implementing strong fuel economy standards. Substantially improving CAFE standards over a ten-year period would reduce the oil used by one-third in 2020 and save consumers $16 billion at the gas pump.

Sixth, request the Federal Trade Commission conduct a study of the reasons why the market forced the closure of over 50 predominantly small and independent refiners in the past 10 years and assess how to bring fair competition back to the refinery market and thus expand capacity.

By employing all six of these strategies, substantial reductions in the price of gasoline are attainable.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in supporting these strategies to lower gasoline prices for consumers. I want to thank WEWS for their public service of bringing these signatures to Washington. The people of Ohio have spoken. It is time for Congress and the Administration to respond to meet the people's needs.

HONORING MICHAEL DOYLE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor Michael Doyle who was former Knight Journalism Fellow at Yale Law School and recent author of The Forestport Breaks: A Nineteenth-Century Conspiracy along the Black Forest Canal. I have had the pleasure of forming a relationship with Michael Doyle because of his continued fair and balanced Washington Politics Beat coverage in my district newspaper, the Fresno Bee. Doyle's latest literary achievement follows a string of exceptional work including numerous articles for McClatchy Papers in California's Central Valley. The Forestport Breaks: A Nineteenth-Century Conspiracy along the Black Forest Canal depicts a conspiracy to sabotage part of the Erie Canal system along the Black River Canal.

A Publisher's Weekly Review called the work ''carefully researched and nimbly written . . . Doyle's account of a 19th-century conspiracy to sabotage part of the Erie Canal system is a delight to read. Completed in 1825, the Erie Canal was an engineering marvel that vastly improved commercial transportation. In 1856, canal boats carried over four million tons of goods—more that twice the load of the railroads. But by 1869, the tide had turned in favor of New York's railroads; the canal had fallen into disrepair and was subject to costly breaks that flooded the countryside. In 1895, New York voters approved $9 million in improvements—but a subsequent investigation revealed that all but $25,000 of the money had been spent, but only one third of the work was complete. The subsequent scandal made heads roll, including the governor's. After Theodore Roosevelt was elected in 1898, he appointed Colonel John N. Partridge as superintendent of public works. Aware that Forestport in Oneida County (which was along the Black River feeder canal) had acquired an unsavory reputation, Partridge hired the Pinkerton Detective Agency to investigate. The locals fought the Pinkertons as enemies of the working man, but the latter eventually uncovered a plot that involved nearly every family in Forestport (and, in the words of one prosecutor, had 'no parallel in viciousness') in which the canal was 'the plaything of the politically connected' while the working men assigned to protect it damaged it for a tiny slice of the pie. In the end, 13 men went to jail for

sabotaging the canal in an effort to rob the state treasury. History and mystery fans should enjoy this well-told tale.''

Again, I would like to thank Michael Doyle for his continued service to the Central Valley of California and the general public through his work in journalism and his latest example of literary excellence in The Forestport Breaks: A Nineteenth-Century Conspiracy along the Black Forest Canal, enlightening us to some of the history that marks the only time New York state officials have charged men with conspiring to destroy canal property and detailing the evolution of this important transportation waterway.

HONORING SMALL BUSINESSES

HON. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ Mr Speaker, I rise today to honor small businesses, especially, the small businesses in Puerto Rico. Small businesses represent the foundation of the economies of the United States and Puerto Rico. Their success both depends on and supports a successful economy. Since arriving in Washington, I have had the pleasure and honor of sitting on the Small Business Committee. Through this committee and the leadership of our ranking member, NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ, we have fought for the success of small businesses, particularly minority owned businesses.

The Small Business Committee recently sent a joint bi-partisan letter to the Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee requesting $79 million for the Small Business Administration's 7(a) loan guarantee program in FY 2005. I hope that my colleagues will understand how sever the situation would be without this fundamental program. The 7(a) program is highly utilized in Puerto Rico. I join my Ranking Democratic Member, NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ, and the committee Chairman, DONALD M. MANZULLO, in urging the Chairman, Congressman FRANK WOLF, and the Ranking Democratic Member, Congressman JOSE SERRANO, to provide the necessary funds to continue this highly successful and highly utilized program.

I would like to close by honoring one small business owner from my district, Evaristo Freiria-Villamil. He was chosen as the 2004 Small Business Person of the Year from the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. I applaud his work as a small business owner and wish him continued success.

Lastly, I wish to applaud the efforts of all small business owners in Puerto Rico. Through their hard work and dedication, we will build a stronger economy for Puerto Rico.

CONGRATULATING UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA AS IT CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania as it celebrates its 50th anniversary on Monday at Genetti's in Dickson City, Pennsylvania.

United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania is an agency that exists solely to serve people with disabilities.

UCP was founded in 1953 by a group of people, including parents of teenagers and young adults with cerebral palsy. For the first few years, the agency consisted of volunteers who developed recreational activities for those disabled by cerebral palsy. The organization received funding from the community contributions and special events conducted by various groups.

After becoming a member agency of the United Fund, the precursor to the United Way, and through several cooperative agreements with other local organizations, UCP began providing professional services. Government funding began in 1970, and made possible the extension of the area that the agency serves.

Government funding also expanded services and increased the eligibility for services of persons with disabilities other than cerebral palsy. In fact, while the agency specializes in serving children and adults who have cerebral palsy, more than 75 percent of its clients have other related disabilities.

The growth of the agency over these past five decades mirrors the changes that have come about in society for persons with disabilities. However, the commitment of this agency to people with disabilities is something that has not and will not change. There is no higher calling than being part of an organization that served those less fortunate, and I want to take this opportunity to thank Executive Director Sarah Drob, Director of Operations Timothy McHugh, Coordinator of Residential Services Karen Himchak, Coordinator of Children's Services Cheryl Astolfi, Coordinator of Adult Services Faith Smith, Accountant Ruta Labutis, Coordinator of Communications and Development Barbara Siarkievicz and Administrative Assistant Tessie Bauer.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly a privilege to represent this fine organization that has shown its commitment to the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Today I ask you and my fellow colleagues to join me in honoring United Cerebral Palsy of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT E. EBERLY, SR.

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of an extraordinary individual, Mr. Robert Eberly Sr., of Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

As with all great humanitarians, it is impossible to fully assess the impact Robert Eberly's life has had on his community and our country. A true gentleman and tireless philanthropist, known for his grace and humility as well as his passion for bettering the lives of others, Robert Eberly's generosity is legendary not only in Pennsylvania but across the country.

Bob often said that others worked just as hard as he did, but were not as fortunate because of circumstances beyond their control. Guided by this basic belief, he donated tens of millions of dollars to support education and economic development.

Robert Eberly was a man of incomparable energy and was actively involved in many of the projects he funded. Though he could have resided anywhere in the world, his heart and home remained in Fayette County, Pennsylvania where his father, a coal miner, raised him on the importance of education. His desire to help the economically depressed region in the wake of the downsizing of the steel and coal industry led him to found Fay-Penn Economic Development Council to support economic development in his home county.

He believed that education is a key to economic development—that the two are intertwined. He therefore donated heavily to colleges and universities throughout Pennsylvania as well as across the United States to promote education in the sciences and to make education accessible to those who could least afford it.

Robert Eberly passed away yesterday at the age of 85. He will be remembered for the example of true character he set for everyone who knew him as well as for the profound legacy of his work. His was a life well spent in the effort to help others. He will be missed by all whose lives he touched—and we will never know all of them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 182, I was not present in the House due to a medical consultation at the Howard Unviersity hospital. Had I been present, I would have voted ''nay.''

MEMORIALIZING ROBERT MASAHIRO YOSHIKAWA

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and contributions of Mr. Robert Masahiro Yoshikawa who recently passed away. He was a pillar of the community and a personal friend of mine. Mr. Yoshikawa made an immeasurable impact on all those around him through his career, his volunteer work, and his devotion to family. His tireless efforts improved the lives of countless people in his community.

I met Robert Yoshikawa many years ago when we were both students at San Jose

State University. From that moment on he continually amazed me with his unwavering selflessness and his extraordinary dedication to the community. Throughout his life, he consistently put others before himself through volunteering and his active involvement with his church, his family activities, and his neighborhood.

For those who are unfamiliar with Mr. Yoshikawa's life, I would like to take a moment to highlight some of his extraordinary contributions. In addition to serving as President of the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, Bob served on the board of directors of both the SJBC and Fuji Towers and played an integral part on many committees. Mr. Yoshikawa was also a past chairman of church ministerial affairs and Obon committees, as well as a charter member and current president of Young Japanese Adults. In 2002, Robert was presented with the Volunteer Recognition Award by the Junior League of San Jose.

In addition to his extensive volunteer work, Mr. Yoshikawa was a wonderful husband to his wife Phyllis and father to his sons, Mark and Scott. He served as an ideal role model for his sons, teaching them right from wrong, imparting to them a spirit of service, and making time to involve himself in their lives and activities. He could often be seen videotaping his sons' football games or driving them to various Boy Scouts, sporting or church activities in his Chevy Suburban. He would constantly guide his sons with sage advice from his experience and the experiences of his own father. He was a man of strong conviction, who stood behind his decisions without wavering.

Robert Yoshikawa, a second generation American, was born in Newcastle, California in 1940. Upon graduating from high school, he attended Sierra Junior College before matriculating on to San Jose State where he received a degree in mechanical engineering and met his future wife, Phyllis Osaki. The couple first lived in an apartment in Sunnyvale, but spent the past 37 years in the house in San Jose that they watched being built. It was there they raised their two boys. Robert worked at Lockheed Martin until his retirement in 2003. At Lockheed, Robert's robust engineering skills and attention to detail were instrumental in the success of several important projects. He was praised for being accurate and efficient, and his remarkable patience and experience made him a valuable mentor to the younger engineers at Lockheed.

Upon retiring from his job at Lockheed Martin after 40 years, Mr. Yoshikawa embarked on yet another chapter in his full life. Though he and Phyllis had already traveled the globe, he had even more trips planned and was enjoying his return to improving his golf game with other retired friends. Always wanting to be useful, he also agreed to volunteer at the Japanese American Museum of San Jose as just one more in his myriad of community services. It was on March 24, while volunteering at the museum, that Mr. Yoshikawa died of a heart attack. Since he was in apparent excellent health, his passing came as quite a shock to all who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of a friend and a role model. I knew Robert for 40 years and he was as inspirational to me the last time I saw him, as he was when we first met. I know that the people of the Bay Area appreciate everything that this wonderful man has done for them and I feel privileged for having known him.

FRED ELLIOT ROBB, USN RET., WORLD WAR I VETERAN AND OLDEST LIVING MARINE

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the few remaining World War I veterans living among us. Fred Elliot Robb is an American of exceptional character, having served in our Armed Services during three major conflicts of the twentieth century.

Originally enlisting in the United States Marine Corps on July 18th, 1918, Fred served as an orderly to a Captain at Quantico, Virginia. He was discharged in February of 1919 and returned home to Sarcoxie, Missouri to complete high school and to make service his vocation by becoming a Presbyterian minister.

When World War II broke out, Fred Robb once again offered his service to his country. He joined the United States Navy as a chaplain and remained in uniform through the first engagements of the War in Vietnam, retiring as a Lieutenant Commander.

Patriotism runs deep in the Robb family. Fred's brother Jacob, also a veteran of World War I, passed away on February 29th of this year at age 105. At the age of 107, Fred, along with his wife Fern, are independent, contributing citizens of the Great State of Missouri.

Throughout his remarkable life, Fred Elliot Robb has exemplified selfless devotion to duty. When his nation needed him, Fred Robb looked with resolve at the challenges facing our nation and accepted them with bravery, determination, and service. Throughout his life he has continued to live by those ideals.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that Fred Robb calls Springfield, Missouri, his home. As we approach Memorial Day, we honor this oldest living Marine for his sacrifice on behalf of our nation and for the example that he sets for generations of Americans to come.

SMALL BUSINESSES ARE THE BEDROCK OF OUR ECONOMY

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, American small businesses are the bedrock of our economy and the heart and soul of this country. Yet these same businesses are also unfairly burdened by red tape regulations.

As our economy matures and expands, it is important that businesses are given every advantage to compete. The amount of time and money small businesses tie up in red tape compliance is exorbitant. Small business owners account for 80 percent of new jobs created in the U.S. economy—that's 8 out of 10 new jobs for Americans created by small businesses. Yet in 2000, the costs small businesses paid in annual regulatory burdens were close to two-thirds greater than that paid by large firms. So why is it, these same businesses carry significantly more responsibility for red tape costs? That just doesn't make sense.

I know first hand how father-son family businesses build up their communities and I know first hand how they are penalized for nothing more than their size. Small businesses should be educating their employees and expanding on ideas, not wasting precious man hours pushing pencils and paper trying to find their way through all the red tape.

Mr. Speaker, we need to release small businesses from excessive regulatory costs which hurts their ability to thrive. Reducing the burden on our small businesses is right for our workers, it is right for our businesses, and it is right for our economy.

LIBERATION OF GUAM: HONORING THE 5TH FIELD MARINES

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, this year is the 60th Anniversary of the Liberation of Guam in 1944 by the U. S. Armed Forces headed by United States Marines. The highlight of Guam's calendar of anniversary activities ever since has been the Liberation Day parade on Marine Drive in downtown Hagåtña, the capital of Guam.

Here in the nation's capital, the anniversary is traditionally observed with the Member of Congress from Guam placing a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknowns, accompanied by government officials, civilian and military.

This year, I had the honor of hosting this memorable event which had an added dimension. It was attended by about 100 special guests—Marine veterans of World War 11 and members of their families. Also present were sons and daughters of Guam living in the region.

As members of the 5th Field Service Depot, these veterans either participated in the liberation of Guam or served Guam during the reconstruction period following liberation. Their pride in their role in the recapture and reconstruction of Guam is a source of great inspiration to us. Their devotion to Guam, as manifested in their establishment of an academic scholarship for a Guamanian student, is one of their touching gestures—from the liberators to the liberated.

On the eve of the dedication of the National World War II Memorial, it is my privilege to enter the names of those Marines and Navy Corpsmen, present here today with their families and friends, in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of this, the House of the people of the United States: Al and Jo Aniello; Sue Barke; Armin and Lois Barth; Bish Bischoff, John and Josie Boertlein; Sandy and Dolores Bompiedi; Art Boston; Lisa Botteri; Bill Buckner; Connie Burrell; Mrs. Frank Carroll; Joe and Terry Ciecierski; Maury Claus; Christna Clausen; Florence Cottone; Cal Dart; Ed and Dot Demm; Frank and Irene Derose; Ed and Mimi Disch; Chuck Doss; Darrell and Evelyn Doss.

Lee Edwards; Fran Feiner; Lillian Feiner; Ken Freck; Arnie and Helen Gasparetti; Mrs.

Evan Geroux; Robert and Marie Gray; Walt and Madeleine Grisevich; Barrett Hackney; Christopher Hackney; Nick and Jayne Hasenflu; Ben and Dee Heath; Don and Barb Hehir; Maury and Dorothy Henderson; Fen Holmes; Elsa House; Lewis and Annella Howlett.

Bill and Willeen Hutchins; Les and Mary Jehnke; Mrs. John King; Betty Kostman; Mrs. Robert Larson; Joe and Ruth Laur; Ernie and Lynn Lee; Frank and Helen Lindsay; Rich and Eileen Little; Roy and Barb Manis; Bill and Roman Mathews; Matty and Barb Matthews; Bob Mcowan; Budd and Ginger Melanson; Ski Nalewanski; Keith Neuman; Harry Ozenbaugh; Mike and Elain Papas; Jake and Viv Plank; Dave Resenthal; Louise Sims; Rabbit and Delna Stefanow; Marge Storing; Doc and Bev Tibbitts; Jude Tonkin; Donna Trotter; Kyle Trotter; Mrs. William Wolfe; Wally and Joan Yandel.

We on Guam know what freedom is because we also know what occupation is. We celebrate Liberation Day on Guam every year as the day of deliverance from enemy occupation and the return of freedom after 32 months of enemy subjugation. We know what it means to thank Marines, Soldiers, Sailors, Coast Guardsmen, and Airmen for their sacrifices because it was not all that long ago that we were an occupied land. On this Memorial Day, 2004, as we gather in the heart of democracy to honor the greatest generation we on Guam, fellow Americans, would like to add our humble gratitude to the veterans of the 5th Field Service Depot who have returned to help us recall the sacrifices of liberation and renew our love of freedom. God Bless America. God Bless Guam. God Bless the United States Marine Corps.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL PALMER'S DEDICATION TO THE TEMPLE CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Michael Palmer for over 14 years of dedicated service as a member of the Temple City Unified School District Board of Education.

Mike Palmer is a dedicated supporter of public education. He is recognized and respected by the community for his unique educational vision. From November 28, 1989 through April 22, 2004, he faithfully served as a member of the Temple City Unified School District Board of Education.

Mike Palmer is an admired and integral member of the Temple City community. He is strongly committed to providing a superior educational experience for students in the district. He has been elected by the residents of TCUSD to serve four terms on the Board of Education. His outstanding leadership on the board has helped guide and influence his fellow board members to make the best decisions for students and faculty in the District.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in congratulating Michael Palmer for a truly exemplary public service career, and for his immense commitment to the Temple City Unified School District.

MOUNT VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL SELECTED FOR NASA EXPLORER SCHOOL PROGRAM

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, as far as we can remember, we have dreamed of reaching the stars. Since its inception in 1958, NASA has helped us realize those dreams. They have taken us into space, placed Americans on the moon, and opened our eyes by exceeding feats once deemed unreachable.

Today, I want to congratulate Mount View Middle School, located in Welch, West Virginia, for being selected to participate in the NASA Explorer School Program. As the first school in West Virginia to be chosen for this prestigious and exciting educational adventure, I am pleased that many of our children in Southern West Virginia will have the opportunity to be exposed to the world of science and engineering in a new and exciting way.

We must focus attention on our future astronauts, scientists, and engineers who will take us even farther than we dare to dream today. They are our children and our students, and with them our hope rests. We must nurture them and give them the resources they need to advance their studies; enhancing their learning and expanding their opportunities so that when it is their time to shine not even the darkest day will dim their light.

The NASA Explorer School Program will help train our math and science teachers and school administrators, for it is our teachers that can provide the spark that ignites our passion, and they lay the basic foundations of education necessary for the success of our future expeditions into space. Advancing the knowledge and skills of our teachers will only improve the development of our students.

The benefits of engaging and educating children in the world of science and engineering cannot be overstated. Programs such as the NASA Explorer Schools Program enable our students to explore these important subjects at a level and intensity that they might not otherwise experience. I once again congratulate Mount View Middle School for being selected to participate in this exciting program, and I look forward to hearing about their related successes.

With the impending challenges ahead, not only today but for generations to come, can we afford not to be ready? By ensuring that our students, our future NASA scientists and engineers, are well prepared for the trials ahead, we can ensure that our future in the skies is as bright as the stars above.

The future of NASA is the future of man. And, as we look toward our future we are reminded of the words of William Faulkner when he said, ''I believe that man will not merely endure. He will prevail. He is immortal, not because he alone among creatures has an inexhaustible voice, but because he has a soul, a spirit capable of compassion and sacrifice and endurance.''

HONORING WILLIS A. (JACK) PANGBURN AND WARREN H. SWARTZ

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize two individuals from my district who have dedicated their lives to making our country safer. Not only have these men served our Country in World War II, but they continue to go beyond their call of duty by providing their services to military funerals and always being available to lend a helping hand for the community.

Willis A. (Jack) Pangburn, was born on September 3, 1918 in Mystic, Iowa. He served in the U.S. Army Infantry in WWII, and was wounded in action. Mr. Pangburn received both the Bronze Star and Purple Heart Medals for his valiant actions. He married Rosemary who passed away in 1985. Together, they had one son, four daughters. Mr. Pangburn is a member of the Disabled American Veterans, and American Legion Veterans of Foreign Wars, and was Post commander (2 years) of the VFW.

Mr. Pangburn is honored as this year's Memorial Day Grand Parade Marshall in Goshen, Indiana for service as Coordinator of the Military Funeral Detail from 1987 to 1997. This unit participates in all military funerals requested by deceased veteran's families in Goshen. Honorary Color Guard, Flag Presentation, Rifle Salute, and TAPS are all included in the service. As many as 12 members participate. He presently serves as a member of this unit. Since 1946 he has helped in placing 4 inch white crosses on deceased VFW Members graves, many of these years he has been in charge of this work at Oakridge Cemetery. He continues to ''Ring Bells''(Santa Claus) for the Salvation Army, passes out ''Buddy Poppies'' on Memorial Day for the VFW, helps purchase and delivers food baskets to the needy at Christmas time, and is still ready to contribute his time and energy at 85 years of age.

Warren H. Swartz, was born on May 7, 1924 in Millersburg, Indiana. He served in the U.S. Navy in WWII as a Gunners Mate in the South Pacific and part-time Diver. He married Gerry in January, 1953. Together they had one daughter. Mr. Swartz is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and Disabled American Veterans, and presently serving as Chaplain of the D.A.V. since 1992.

Mr. Swartz was honored as last year's Memorial Day Grand Parade Marshall in Goshen for his service as Coordinator of the Military Funeral Detail from 1997 to 2003. He still serves as a member and, as Chaplain of the D.A.V., he is called upon to present the American flag to the next of kin frequently.

He is revered by all the men of this detail, which numbers about 45, by his faithful and military presence in the fulfillment of his duties. He is willing to travel anywhere to assist a veteran in need.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004 LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER, KELLI MCCARRELL OF PARMA, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Kelli McCarrell, winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is given to young adults who have demonstrated their true commitment to playing an important role in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Kelli is being honored for demonstrating the same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Kelli is an exceptional student at Western High School. Aside from being at the top of her class academically, she possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. She has participated in Varsity Golf and Cheerleading for four years as well as the school band. Notable among her many activities is her service as President of the Spanish Club, Treasurer of the National Honor Society, and Captain of the Math Academic Team. Kelli is also very active with her church.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to join her many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to Kelli McCarrell for her selection as winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor not only recognizes her efforts, but is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and other individuals whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, we extend our most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT DOLPHIN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is truly a privilege to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Dr. Bob Dolphin, a man who for over 40 years has had a distinguished career in education and public service. After 20 years of service, Bob will be stepping down from his position as President of Fort Lewis College. As Bob celebrates his retirement, I wish to join with the citizens of Colorado in acknowledging all that he has accomplished at Fort Lewis College.

Bob arrived at Fort Lewis College in 1984 as Dean of the School of Business and a Professor of Finance. In 1986, he became acting Vice President for Business and Finance, and successfully saw the school through a major financial crisis in that same year. He began his service as President in July, 2002, and in his first year as President transitioned the school from part of the Colorado State University system into an independent college. He has also done much for the future of the college, erecting eight new buildings, completing renovations, and wiring the entire campus for high-speed Internet service. For his service to the college and community, Bob received the Citizen of the Year Award in 1999 from the Durango Area Chamber Resort Association as well as the 2002 Achievement Award from Fort Lewis College.

Bob's active participation and involvement in the community is evident through his service on numerous boards, commissions and committees. He was President of the Durango Area Chamber Resort Association in 1988, a member of the Durango City Council from 1989 to 1993, Mayor of Durango in 1993, and chair of Southwest Colorado's United Way campaign throughout the mid 1990s. He also served on the Library Advisory board, and the Board of Directors of the Bank of Durango.

Mr. Speaker, it is quite clear that Dr. Robert Dolphin is a person who has exemplified a strong commitment and dedication toward his life's pursuit of excellence in education and public service. His incredible devotion and passion for contributing towards the betterment of the Fort Lewis College and Durango community is worthy of recognition before this body of Congress and this nation. It is my distinct pleasure to honor Bob here today, and wish him and his wife Nancy all the best in their future endeavors.

A SALUTE TO MARVIN L. GILLUM

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to recognize my friend and constituent, Manassas Mayor Marvin L. Gillum. After a long and distinguished career serving the city of Manassas, Marvin has announced that he will retire from the position of mayor.

Marvin entered public life in 1980 as a member of the Manassas School Board, serving as chairman from 1985 to 1995. In 1996, Marvin was elected mayor of the City of Manassas, an office which he has held ever since. In addition to his career as a public servant to his lifelong home of Manassas, Marvin practiced dentistry for 40 years and assumed a second career in investment advising in 1987.

Throughout his career, Marvin has worked tenaciously on behalf of the City of Manassas. Among Marvin's many accomplishments, he helped establish a system for improved communications with neighboring jurisdictions, promoted the extensive industrial and commercial expansion in the City of Manassas, led the celebrated revitalization of Old Town Manassas, fought for funding for the Loy E. Harris Pavilion and the Center for the Arts, and encouraged the development of the city's school system, facilitating accreditation by the Virginia Standards of Learning.

A humble and notoriously polite man, Marvin is referred to by friends and colleagues as a ''leader'' and a ''gentleman,'' known for his good sense and judgment, and stabilizing influence on the city. He worked closely and cooperatively with his staff and the rest of the City Council, acquiring the deepest respect from his peers. Vice Mayor Hal Parrish commented: ''Mayor Gillum is the very soul of Manassas. He has led the City Government, the School Board and the community with thought, idealism, and caring leadership . . . Speaking for all of the City Council, we will miss his insight and guidance when the decisions get difficult.''

John Foote, a lawyer and personal friend of Mayor Gillum also said, ''He's one of the finest men I've ever known. He's just a wonderful mayor . . . And I don't know anyone who doesn't share my emotion toward him.''

Mayor Gillum is married to Mardi Gillum and they have three daughters.

It is my pleasure to honor the achievements of Mayor Marvin Gillum today as we celebrate his eminent public career. On behalf of the people of Virginia's 10th Congressional District and the residents of Manassas, I wish to thank and congratulate Mr. Gillum for his exceptional contributions to the community.

OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, the following high school students from the First Congressional District of New Mexico have been awarded the Congressional Certificate of Merit. These students have excelled during their academic careers and proven themselves to be exceptional students and leaders with their scholastic achievements, community services, and participation in school and civic activities. It is my pleasure to be able to recognize these outstanding students for their accomplishments. Their parents, their teachers, their classmates, the people of New Mexico and I are proud of them.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD WINNERS 2004

David Brown III, Mountainair High School; Theodore Chavez, Menaul High School; Jericha Phillips, South Valley Academy; Jordan Allen, Moreno Valley High School; Justin Montoya, Albuquerque Evening School; Luz Del Carmen Carreon, West Mesa High School; Emmaly Wiederholt, Del Norte High School; Brent Wylie, Hope Christian School; Alison Rice, Freedom High School; Amy Hopkins, Estancia High School; Joannie Suina & Veronica Budager, Bernalillo High School; Casey Thompson, Evangel Christian Academy; Kate Phelan, Albuquerque Academy; Shaili Ghimire, Middle College High School; JoJo Bailey, Moriarty High School; Alberto Belmares-Ortega, Albuquerque High School; Stephanie Cox, Sierra Alternative High School; Amanda Rubio, New Futures School; Ross Seeger, Sandia Preparatory School; Thomas Dimiduk, Eldorado High School; Anthony Rodriquez, Albuquerque Country Day School; Kristin Rae Grassham, Sandia High School; Victoria De Oreo, St. Pius X High School; Kim Sisneros, Cibola High School; Matthew Bonner, Temple Baptist Academy; and Raellen Frick, Rio Grande High School.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004 LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER, BOBBY JO LUDWICK, OF BRONSON, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Bobby Jo Ludwick, winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is given to young adults who have demonstrated their true commitment to playing an important role in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Bobby Jo is being honored for demonstrating the same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Bobby Jo is an exceptional student at Bronson High School. Aside from being at the top of her class academically, Bobby Jo possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. She is very active in the National Honor Society, F.F.A., 4–H, and student government. She has also devoted a great deal of her time to volunteering with a variety of different civic organizations.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to join her many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to Bobby Jo Ludwick for her selection as winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor not only recognizes her efforts, but is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and other individuals whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, we extend our most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

IN CELEBRATION OF FLOOD BUILDING CENTENNIAL

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Flood Building of San Francisco and to have the opportunity to express my appreciation to the Flood family for their immeasurable contributions to the City of San Francisco over four generations.

It was a great pleasure to attend the Flood Building Centennial Celebration on April 16 and to celebrate with members of the Flood family. I particularly want to thank Jim Flood and Judy Wilbur for carrying on the outstanding traditions of their distinguished family.

The Flood Building was built by James L. Flood in 1904 as a tribute to his father, James Clair Flood. Architect Albert Pissis, a master of Beaux-Arts classicism, designed the Classic Revival structure, along with many other great works throughout San Francisco. At the time it was built, the 12-story Flood Building was the largest building in San Francisco.

The building's history is one of survival. It remained standing after both the 1906 and 1989 earthquakes that devastated San Francisco. In 1950, it was scheduled to be destroyed and replaced by a three-story modern structure, but the building was saved at the last minute when the Federal government seized it through the right of eminent domain. At the time, Washington was in desperate need of a San Francisco-based office to help manage the Korean War, and the Flood Building offered an ideal solution. The Federal government returned the building to the Flood family in 1953.

Today, Jim Flood—James Clair Flood II, named after his great grandfather—owns, manages, and has his office in the building, making it San Francisco's oldest family-owned commercial building. The Flood Building has flourished under his management, undergoing a $15 million renovation to restore the building to its original style. Architecturally, it is the most significant commercial building in San Francisco, and it was named a city landmark in 1982.

I join the Flood family and so many of my constituents in celebrating the 100th anniversary of this San Francisco treasure.

IN RECOGNITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, an important month in the Asian Pacific American community. Asian Pacific American Heritage Month commemorates the tremendous impact that the Asian culture has made on our Nation. Just as importantly it is a month that deserves more recognition than it usually receives, as it is often overshadowed.

It is very important that this month we pay homage to the Asian Pacific American contribution to the American culture and experience. Through the centuries they have embodied the American spirit and fostered the concept of community. Their adaptation to the Americas and resilience is something that we should all aim to emulate.

Asian Pacific American's have long served an intricate role in the development of the Americas. From the development of the transcontinental railroad to present day the Asian Pacific American community has and continues to make their presence evident in the medical field, arts, politics, science and engineering, entertainment, culinary arts, and military excellence.

It is important that not just during this month, but may we always recognize and continue to embrace the Asian Pacific American contribution to our culture. As a nation I hope that we will continue to all work and grow together. Today Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the Asian Pacific American contribution and commemorate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Amendment by my colleagues Representative MURTHA and Representative WELDON that would express the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Defense should assist the Iraqi Government in destroying the Abu Ghraib prison and replacing it with a modern detention facility. This Amendment is especially relevant because it is only applicable if the Iraqi Governing Council agrees that they would like to destroy the Abu Ghraib prison and would like American help in doing so.

While I support this Amendment I do hope that this will not be the only step taken to try to undo the damage done by the Iraqi torture scandal. We may be able to erase the structure of the Abu Ghraib prison and we may be able to construct a new state-of-the-art prison facility in its place, but until we take the proper steps to bring all perpetrators to justice and correct our interrogation procedures; we will not be able to erase the image of Americans torturing prisoners that is etched in the mind of Iraqis and indeed in the mind of people worldwide. The court-martial of a few enlisted soldiers is not enough for a problem that has now proven to be endemic. There must be true accountability from the leadership in the Armed Forces. The enlisted soldiers can not be the only ones involved in this scandal, the Armed Forces have always stressed a strict chain of command and everyone in that chain must be held accountable for this multitude of despicable acts. Secretary Rumsfeld and Deputy Secretary Wolfowitz can not hide behind their office, they bear the responsibility for this scandal and so far I remain unsatisfied with their response to it.

Again, I feel that this Amendment to assist the Iraqi Government in destroying the Abu Ghraib prison and replacing it with a modern detention facility is one that is worthy of passage. This is both a symbolic and physical gesture to the Iraqi people that our troops are in Iraq to tear down the past of Saddam Hussein and rebuild a new democratic nation. We must all work to make sure that these gestures are followed by substantive actions to correct our significant missteps.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004 LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER, OF JONESVILLE, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence that he has compiled in academics, leadership, and community service, that I am proud to salute Shea Scott Dow, winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is given to young adults who have demonstrated their true commitment to

playing an important role in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Shea is being honored for demonstrating the same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Shea is an exceptional student at Jonesville High School. Aside from being at the top of his class academically, Shea has an outstanding record of achievements in high school. Shea is very active in the National Honor Society, F.F.A., 4–H, student government, and band. He has also devoted a great deal of his time to volunteer with a variety of different civic organizations and is a very active member of his church.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to join his many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to Shea Scott Dow for his selection as winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor not only recognizes his efforts, but is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and other individuals whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to his success. To this remarkable young man, we extend our most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.

AMBASSADOR TONY P. HALL HONORED BY THE CENTER FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of the House the honoring of our former colleague Ambassador Tony Hall by The Center for Public Justice. Tony was recently presented with the center's 2004 Leadership Award.

After his distinguished career in the House from 1979 until 2002, Tony was named the United States ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture in Rome, Italy. In his time in office, Tony Hall was a leading advocate for fighting domestic and international hunger. He helped to create the House Select Committee on Hunger, and was a founding member of the steering committee of the Congressional Friends of Human Rights Monitors.

The Center for Public Justice is a distinguished nationwide civic organization striving to better the world through the active involvement of its citizens in the service of God. The Center for Public Justice's goal is the advancement of justice for all people in the community. The center's annual leadership award could not have been given to a more deserving person than Tony Hall. On behalf of all our colleagues, we salute you, Tony.

OUTSTANDING UNIVERSITY ATHLETES

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I commend the great athletic achievements of some of my constituents. This past March, the University of New Mexico's Ski Team became the first UNM team to ever win any NCAA championship.

They are all to be congratulated, but there are few people in particular that I would like to especially recognize. Firstly the team's coach, George Brooks. Mr. Brooks created the ski team at UNM and has been working with them since 1970. This landmark win can be attributed to Mr. Brook's hard work and great faith in the ability of his team.

A special recognition is due to the senior team captain, Jennifer Delch. Her leadership throughout the season as well as her individual gold medal, which she received for the giant slalom, greatly contributed to the team's success.

The team is furthermore to be congratulated as a whole. Most of its members came from other nations to ski for the UNM team. It was their willingness to take a risk in leaving their homelands that lead to both their personal victories and to the team's NCAA win.

Not only have these UNM students excelled in athletics, but have also remembered academics. In fact, the entire team's average GPA is an A−. This is a great achievement and speaks very well of the over-all ability of those who are on the team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you join me and all the residents of New Mexico in honoring the UNM ski team on their success. I would also like to wish them luck in future seasons.

IN HONOR OF SUSAN T. KENNEDY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I rise to pay tribute to the life and work of my longtime friend, Susan T. Kennedy, who passed away on April 17, 2004. Susie was a great woman and an exceptional public servant. We will miss her terribly.

Susie's life was one of service and political and community activism. Beginning with her work with the Service Employees Union, Susie was a tireless advocate of labor. At the age of 21, she was elected to the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee—the youngest ever to serve—and was reelected for the next 25 years.

In 1962, Susie joined the staff of Democratic Assemblyman Phillip Burton. Upon his election to Congress, she became his Administrative Assistant, supervising his District Office in San Francisco. She was his trusted advisor, and he depended on her great political instincts, judgment, and understanding of the people of San Francisco.

Susie was absolutely committed to the constituents and elected officials she served. After working for both Phil and Sala Burton for 25 years, she graciously and expertly helped with my transition to Congress after I won a special election in 1987 to succeed Sala Burton. I will never forget her support and friendship. Susie later joined with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to help create a lasting memorial to Congressman Phil Burton.

Susan Kennedy was a devoted wife, mother, sister, and friend. To her sons, Marc and Frank, and to her sisters and brothers, Dolores, Bernie, Mary, Walter, Kathleen and Tom, thank you for sharing your beloved Susie with us. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of her family at this sad time.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004 LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER, HEATHER LUCEY, OF BLISSFIELD, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Heather Lucey, winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is given to young adults who have demonstrated their true commitment to playing an important role in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Heather is being honored for demonstrating the same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Heather is an exceptional student at Blissfield High School. Aside from being at the top of her class academically, Heather possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. She is a member of the National Honor Society and a peer mentor at school. Heather is also very active with her church.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to join her many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to Heather Lucey for her selection as winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor not only recognizes her efforts, but is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and other individuals whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, we extend our most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF PRESIDENT H. PATRICK SWYGERT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and submit for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a speech delivered by H. Patrick Swygert, the President of Howard University at a meeting called by President Enrique Iglesias of the Inter-American Development Bank to examine the challenge of social inclusion in economic development in the Western Hemisphere. President Swygert's speech points out not only the destructivity of social exclusion, more importantly he emphasizes the need for social inclusion as a means to break barriers, build bridges, and create networks as a means to achieve economic development.

I would also like to commend President Iglesias and the Inter-American Development Bank for understanding and beginning to take

the necessary steps towards a more social inclusive global community, and for affording President Swygert a forum to discuss and accelerate dialog regarding this important initiative.

It is essential in the period of economic surplus that we recognize the fact that as our wealth grows, the gap between rich and poor widens. Eventually those on the lower end of the spectrum get left behind and have very few means to catch up to their counterparts. Social inclusion, as President Swygert eloquently points out, aims to intervene in the perpetual cycle of poverty that exclusion creates.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank President Swygert for his efforts to alert us all to the growing economic inequality that is the end result of social exclusion and for his visionary leadership in advocating social inclusion as the means to achieve the alleviation of poverty in the Western Hemisphere.

SOCIAL INCLUSION, EDUCATION HEALTH AND CULTURE: BREAKING BARRIERS, BUILDING BRIDGES AND CREATING NETWORKS

(By President H. Patrick Swygert)

The IADB President—Mr. Enrique Iglesias, Other Officials of the Bank, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentleman, Greetings. First, let me congratulate the Inter-American Development Bank for this impressive effort today to accelerate the dialogue on social inclusion.

Inclusion of course, implies exclusion, its opposite. Certainly, without the recognition that the issue of exclusion is a problem and a growing one, there would not be the need for this dialogue today. I regard this meeting, therefore, as an effort to understand both sides of an issue that is destructive in the case of the one, and productive, harmonious and highly desirable in the other.

It is indeed commendable that this institution, a development bank, is leading this initiative to enhance our understanding of the importance of inclusiveness among the various human components of our societies and, conversely, that you are examining the nature of exclusion and how it thwarts the development process by relegating some people—the best resources of any society—to the fringes where they are unable to realize their ambitions as fully functioning members of the society.

This undertaking, therefore, is both significant and challenging because the issues that militate against the inclusion that we seek are centuries old and are as pervasive as they are persistent. And now, studies are showing that the process of globalization which, at one level, ironically enough, is bringing the world closer together, is at another level, fostering deeper divisions between the peoples of the world, and reinforcing the familiar and painful dichotomies of powerful and powerless, haves and havenots, and increasing the wretchedness of the wretched of the earth.

In this still brand new millennium, our failure to build a more just world and to fully harness, arguably the bulk of the human capital into the process of building better societies, better nations and a better world, remains one of the greatest failures of this civilization.

To this extent, dialogues like these are critical because they are the necessary first steps on the pathway to a greater understanding, appreciation and acceptance of our common humanity and the building of the bridges we so badly need.

For me, this is a particularly interesting time to reflect on the need for inclusion at all levels and the painful lessons that we eventually learn when we pursue policies and pathways that are exclusive and divisive.

Come May 17, this year, Howard University will join the NAACP and the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and Educational Fund in a gala event at Constitution Hall to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, the landmark Supreme Court ruling that desegregated public education in America and began this nation's transformation toward a more inclusive society.

As you can imagine, the Supreme Court ruling was a great day for African Americans who made their entrance to this continent in chains and struggled for centuries against the denial of their humanity, and their exclusion from all else except the forced labor that generated wealth for the masters.

The eventual end of slavery would not be the end of the struggle for them it was soon followed by Jim Crow and the segregation that ended officially only 50 years ago. Again, the end of segregation merely heralded a new struggle—that to have the society treat them as equal in accordance with the new law of the land. It would take years of agitation among civil rights groups and activists and the sacrifices of people like Rosa Parks and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. before the society finally began to implement changes at all levels.

The process continues today. We have made tremendous progress but we are nowhere near a fully integrated society. It is still a daily struggle for African Americans and other minorities to get others to look beyond the color of their skins and see a fellow human being rather than a stereotype.

Howard University, my alma mater, played a critical role in the successful Brown case. The University was the training ground for the attorneys who represented Brown and most of them were faculty at our school of law. And, it was one of our graduates, Thurgood Marshall, who argued the case before the Supreme Court.

Howard University is proud of this legacy. Proud of its commitment to a philosophy of equality and justice for all people. Proud of its dedication to help create an environment that affirms the value of all humanity; that uplifts everyone and oppresses no one.

Throughout this academic year, the University has hosted several events commemorating the Brown anniversary. The dialogue has been about social exclusion and inclusion, because that was at the heart of the case. African Americans in this country know about exclusion. They know it was wrong 400 years ago and it is wrong today in whatever form it comes.

It is out of this history of suffering perhaps, has come the instinctive revulsion of these kinds of artificial barriers among African Americans. They seem to know intuitively that divisions of the kind that they experienced are morally offensive; they are socially disruptive, economically unproductive and they form the breeding ground for conflict and instability in any society.

The basis of the exclusion that we speak of today is not limited to social class, but gender, sexuality, physical or emotional disabilities, ethnicity, race, skin color.

In so many countries of the world, humanity seems divided by these artificial barriers—barriers that do little except to blind us to the reality of our common bonds. With both our hearts and our intellect, we know that as citizens of the universe, we are far more alike than we are different, yet by our own attitudes or lack of action, many of us reinforce old stereotypes that ultimately become obstacles to progress and the pursuit of meaningful interactions.

Samuel L. Johnson, the great 18th century British essayist, and poet, suffered from all kinds of physical disabilities. His sight was poor. His hearing was poor. His face was scarred by a skin disease and he suffered from Tourette syndrome. You bet that he too knew the meaning of social exclusion. In a ringing appeal for acceptance, Johnson wrote. ''Men, however distinguished by external accidents or intrinsic qualities, have all the same wants, the same pains, and, as far as the senses are concerned, the same pleasures. We are all prompted by the same motives, all deceived by the same fallacies, all animated by hope, obstructed by danger, entangled by desire, and seduced by pleasure.''

As human beings, we cherish a common desire to satisfy our basic needs, and beyond that to pursue what we believe will bring us a sense of fulfillment. For many of us, this often means reaching out beyond ourselves in service to others and this is where many of us truly absorb that the world is bigger than the sum total of any single individual's needs.

The truth is, our fundamental desires, with little exceptions are grounded in our humanity, not in our race, religion, ethnicity or any other such variables. Yet we persist in our creation of all kinds of false dichotomies, even as many of us embrace the notion of a Fatherhood of God. Somehow, we have failed to accept that this fatherhood of God extends itself to a brotherhood and a sisterhood of humankind.

Rather than such acceptance and the equality that it implies, we have not just subdivided humanity but we have stratified it as well. People of color—non white people—are at the low end of this hierarchy. The farther one departs from the Eurocentric ideals, which tops the hierarchy of course, the less value is ascribed to one's talents, wisdoms, cultures, contributions to civilization, needs and desires—one's humanity.

This is certainly true of the Americas. Five decades after Brown, for example, many of our schools remain deeply segregated. Black and Latino children disproportionately attend schools that are in high poverty areas. These schools are under-funded, under-performing and naturally turn out graduates that are ill-equipped to move forward and help their families free themselves from the shackles of poverty.

Eighty percent of black and Latino children in segregated schools are in high poverty areas, compared to five per cent of their white counterparts in similar schools. Many schools remain segregated, or at best minimally integrated, at both the level of the student body and the staff. In states such as Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania and California, the pattern is now too pronounced to ignore.

The outcome of this kind of segregation is the underperformance among the children who attend them; the high drop out rates; significantly reduced chances of post high-school success, and the eventual spiral into drugs and violence among too many children who end up with life on the streets as their vocation.

In health care, the disparities are just as obvious. According to the American Medical Association, racial disparities in healthcare in the United States, remain ''chronic'' with minorities benefiting the least from what it described as ''marked by advances in medicine and health care.'' Among some of the more interesting statistics:

Thirty-one percent of minority adults, ages 18–64, do not have insurance, compared with 14 percent of white adults in the same age group.

Minority adults report more problems with receiving health care.

Forty percent say they have ''a major problem with having to pay too much for care,'' compared to 26 percent of white adults.

Further, low-income persons, regardless of race, spend more out-of-pocket income—about 7–11 percent—on medical expenses than higher income Americans who typically only spend about 1–2 percent of their income on medical care.

The infant mortality rate in the last forty years has declined faster for whites than for blacks, with the longstanding disparity actually increasing from 1.6 times the rate for whites in 1950 to 2.2 times the rates in 1991.

Black women are twice as likely as white women to obtain late or no prenatal care; Hispanic women are three times as likely to obtain inadequate or no prenatal care as non-Hispanic white women; and American Indian women are more likely than either white or black women to obtain late or no prenatal care at all.

Overall, African Americans tend to receive lower quality healthcare than whites for everything from cancer, heart disease and HIV/AIDS to diabetes and mental health.

There is less evidence examining disparities involving Hispanics and other minority groups.

Here in America, the disparities are obvious. The availability of data and the high visibility of the society make it much easier for us to point fingers at what is happening here. And, it is true that because of the vast wealth of this country, these inequalities seem more egregious.

The truth is though, that the disadvantaged status of minority groups extends into all reaches of the Americas. Afro-Brazilians, Afro-Hondurans, Afro-Colombians, Afro-Nicaraguans, Afro-Ecuadorians, all experience the same sense of despair born from the knowledge of their marginalized status in countries where they are minorities; where their worth has been determined by their ethnicity and skin color, and their sense that nothing will change because, after all, they cannot change who they are. Whether it is the Creoles in Belize, the Gari-fun-as of Guatemala, The Arawaks of Guyana, the Caribs in St. Lucia or the Rez-a-(i)les of San Andres Islands, the same sense of hopeless and alienation characterize their existence in the Americas, though most of these populations have existed here for hundreds of years, some of them even pre-dating Christopher Columbus. While they suffer through lives of quiet desperation, they remain largely invisible to a world that barely acknowledges that they are there.

Bringing marginalized groups into the mainstream of development is an imperative for the corporate world, as it is for institutions like yours, and mine. On the surface, it may seem like a difficult and costly undertaking, but it will be less expensive than the price of conflict, malnutrition, communicable and non-communicable diseases, political instability and the absence of buying power in the market place.

Beyond the societal and economic benefits, bringing marginalized groups into mainstream society is a recognition of our acceptance of a common humanity and our embrace of such as the source of our sustenance and the basis of our quest for peace, harmony and respect for human dignity throughout the world.

In the words of Kenneth B. Clarke, the Howard University graduate, whose research supported the attorneys on the Brown Case: ''. . . segregation (read, exclusion), like all other forms of cruelty and tyranny, debases all human being—those who are its victims, those who victimize, and in quite subtle ways those who are mere accessories.''

Our dialogue today recognizes the veracity of those words. So, despite what seems like a painfully fractured world, we must continue to strive for the ideals of co-existence and community, and the strengthening of relationships among disparate groups in the pursuit of peace, harmony and prosperity. The struggle for these ideals is the only basis of our hope for peace, justice and freedom from oppression.

Like the IADB, my institution is dedicated to preserving and promoting the ideals of inclusion in the Americas, and to the extent that our influence reaches, beyond.

Through institutions like the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center which encourages greater participation in global issues among the students and faculty; the Moorland Spingarn Research Center, the largest collection of research material on African heritage next to the Schomburg Center; the U.S.-Brazil project on Race, Development and Social Inequality and the ongoing study and preservation of art, music, dance, language, history and other characteristics of cultures, Howard continues to make a sterling contribution to an informed understanding of the benefits of an inclusive society.

Our programs in Health Sciences, meanwhile, are dedicated not just to the provision of quality care to the under-served, but to a discovery of causes and development of cures to the diseases that disproportionately affect those communities. Our Hispanic and multicultural affairs program and the International healthcare program, are significant efforts in this direction.

Finally, in all of our efforts, the fight for civil rights remains central. Howard University was founded on this very notion that all people, regardless of their race, deserve the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness and the right to live with dignity and respect.

For 138 years, we have remained committed to reinforcing these principles and pursue these ideals toward the advancement of the human race.

I would like to commend the IADB for being an ally in this process and I look forward to a growing relationship as we pursue our common goals. Thank you.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in full support of the Amendment being offered by the leadership of the distinguished Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues. I find no reason why this bipartisan Amendment should not be wholeheartedly supported by this entire body and adopted as a part of this Defense Authorization. A similar version of this amendment has already been included in the Senate version of the Defense Authorization Bill after being developed in consultation with the Pentagon, and has bipartisan support in the Senate. This Amendment would require the Secretary of Defense to develop a comprehensive policy for the Department of Defense on the prevention of and response to sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces. This policy would be based on the recommendations of the Department's own Task Force on Care for Victims of Sexual Assault, which released its report and recommendations last week concerning sexual assault in the military based on its 90-day study.

Ever since the unfortunate Tailhook scandal and the ensuing weak investigation that took place in 1991, the American public has realized that sexual assault in the Armed Forces is a major problem that unfortunately has yet to be properly addressed. The sexual assault of women in the Armed Forces is not only illegal, but it is clearly bad for morale. These men and women serve in the same units, often in extremely dangerous situations, there must be trust amongst all parties that their rights will be respected and protected by the Armed Forces that they so diligently serve.

It is unfortunate that my own Amendment to help address this problem in the Armed Forces was not ruled in order by the Rules Committee. My amendment would have directed the Department of Defense to award a contract to an independent phone bank for tending to rape and sexual assault victims in a confidential manner within three months of its enactment. That phone bank would be required to have the expertise and training programs in place to allow operators to cope with unique situations arising from sexual abuse in the military context. This phone bank would be open to members of the Armed Forces and their families. I hope we all understand the devastation caused by rape and sexual assault. However, what we often fail to recognize is the fact that members of the Armed Forces and their families are in a unique situation that is not faced by other Americans. Because of this fact it is imperative members of the Armed Forces and their families have an outlet to receive counseling and advice for issues related to rape and sexual assault without the fear that their report might be sent to their superiors in the Armed Forces without their consent.

While I am dismayed that my pertinent Amendment was not ruled in order, I still feel strongly that the Amendment being brought forth by the leadership of the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues must be agreed to by this body. A comprehensive plan to deal with sexual assault in the Armed Forces is necessary if we ever hope to achieve equal protection for all our brave fighting men and women.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004 LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER, TYLER WILLIAM LOSINSKI, OF BRONSON, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence he has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I salute Tyler William Losinski, winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is given to young adults who have demonstrated their true commitment to playing an important role in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Tyler is being honored for demonstrating the same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Tyler is an exceptional student at Bronson High School. Aside from his academic excellence, Tyler possesses an outstanding record

of achievement in high school. He has participated in F.F.A./4–H for four years and has served as both Secretary and Vice President. Notable among his many activities are his four years on both the Varsity Football and Baseball teams. Tyler also hopes to one day become a teacher.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to join his many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to Tyler William Losinski for his selection as winner of the 2004 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor not only recognizes his efforts, but is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and other individuals whose personal interest, strong support, and active participation contributed to his success. To this remarkable young man, we extend our most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN OF TAIWAN

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate President Chen Shui-bian of Taiwan for having narrowly won his reelection on March 20. He will be inaugurated as the eleventh president of the Republic of China this May 20th.

As many of us know, Mr. Chen has a very interesting story. He came from a poor Taiwanese farming family. After his university days, he became an active political reformer and activist for many years and served time in prison for his beliefs. After gaining his release, he became a lawmaker and later as mayor of Taipei. He won his first presidential race in March 2000, the first time in Chinese society that an opposition party candidate was elected president. During his first term in office, he led his country toward full democratization and drastically improved Taiwan's human rights record. Today Taiwan's constitution guarantees its citizens basic civil liberties, including freedom of peaceful assembly and association, freedom of speech and press, and freedom of religion.

In the next four years, I am hopeful that Mr. Chen will continue Taiwan's political reforms and strive for better relations with China. Recently, Mr. Chen reiterated his determination to maintain peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and good relations with the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Mr. Chen the best of luck in all areas. As a beacon of democracy, Taiwan richly deserves our friendship and support.

INTRODUCTION FOR THE EQUAL SURETY BOND OPPORTUNITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Equal Surety Bond Opportunity Act (ESBOA). The ESBOA will help qualified women and minority-owned businesses to compete in the contracting business by helping them obtain adequate surety bonding. In addition, the ESBOA is directed against barriers that many qualified small and emerging construction firms encounter in obtaining surety bonding. I have introduced this bill before. I do so again because it is a common sense way to eliminate a serious form of discrimination without an additional enforcing bureaucracy.

A surety bond is issued by insurers for the purpose of guaranteeing that should a bonded contractor default, a construction project will be completed and the contractors employees and material suppliers will be paid. Surety bonding is mandatory for competing for all Federal construction work in excess of $25,000, all federally assisted construction projects in excess of $100,000, and most state and local public construction. However, surety bonding requirements are not restricted to government contracting. Increasingly, private construction contracts also require surety bonding. As surety bonding has become a widespread requirement, the inability to obtain surety bonding can cripple a construction firm, especially a small or a new one.

In 1992, Congress acknowledged the importance of this issue when it enacted the Small Business Credit Crunch Relief Act and included legislation to study the problem of discrimination in the surety bonding field, Public Law 102–366, that I had introduced. The survey provision required the General Accounting Office (GAO) to conduct a comprehensive survey of business firms, especially those owned by women and minorities, to determine their experiences in obtaining surety bonding from corporate surety firms.

The GAO completed the requested survey in June 1995. The survey found that of the 12,000 small construction firms surveyed, 77 percent had never obtained bonds. In addition, minority and women-owned firms were more likely to be asked for certain types of financial documentation. Further, minority-owned firms were also more likely to be asked to provide collateral and to meet additional conditions not required by others.

The ESBOA bill I am introducing today is modeled on the Equal Credit Opportunity Act of 1968, which prohibited discrimination in credit practices. The ESBOA requires the contractor notify the applicant of the action taken on his or her application within 20 days of receipt of a completed bond application. If the applicant is denied bonding, the surety would also be required, upon request, to provide a written statement of specific reasons for each denied request. Furthermore, the bill would provide civil liability in the form of damages and appropriate equitable relief should a surety company fail to comply with this notice requirement.

This legislation would help all contractors to have a better understanding of the reasons behind the denial of their bond applications. Furthermore, the importance of civil penalties cannot be understated for minority applicants who currently have no recourse when they suspect that the denial of surety bonding was based on considerations such as gender, race or religion.

The disclosure of pertinent information to rejected applicants is an equitable principle familiar throughout the federal acquisition process. This is the case when a small business is turned down for a government contract and has the opportunity to demand a negative pre-award survey. With this information, the business can contest the award or use the information to be better prepared for the next award competition. The more a business knows about what is wrong with its proposal, the greater the likelihood that the next time the business will submit a better and more competitive proposal.

According to the National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC), many minority contractors reported being turned down for a bond without an explanation. When explanations are not proffered, a perception of discrimination in the surety industry is created. This perception drives minority contractors to obtain sureties outside the mainstream, often at significant additional expense and fewer protections, placing themselves, their subcontractors, and the Government at greater risk.

Civil penalties in this bill are necessary to compel surety bond companies to provide accurate and non-discriminatory reasons for denial of surety bonding. This bill will provide the applicant with the necessary civil remedy should the surety bonding company refuse to provide this important information. In addition to providing essential information for future bond applications, a clear response will identify whether surety bonding companies are using discriminatory or fallacious criteria in making these decisions.

This legislation will create an environment in which small business firms, particularly those owned and controlled by minorities and women, can successfully obtain adequate surety bonding. This legislation will enable us to ferret out continuing biases in the industry. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and help abolish the artificial impediments to the development and survival of emerging small businesses.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM ''DOC'' SAMKO

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to William "Doc" Samko, in honor of his 37 wonderful years of service to Worcester Academy—my alma mater.

Doc has been the athletic trainer at Worcester Academy since the 1966–67 school year. Throughout his tenure he has been a teacher, a healer, a mentor and a friend to thousands of young students. He has guided them through injury and defeat with grace and humor.

I myself played football at Worcester Academy, although I never really got enough playing time to risk injury. I like to say I played "left bench." It's probably for the best. But I knew that if I ever got hurt, Doc Samko would be there to help.

Before his time at Worcester Academy, Doc worked at Holy Cross College in Worcester, where he helped the likes of Bob Cousy, Tommy Heinsohn, and other greats of that era. A pioneer in his field, Doc has been inducted into the Worcester Academy Hall of Fame and the National Athletic Trainers Hall of Fame.

Now in his 80's, he's still going strong. On May 22, Doc will be honored at a dinner in the Worcester Academy gymnasium, where he will be surrounded by family, friends, and admirers. I only hope the gym is big enough, because a lot of people admire and love Doc Samko.

Mr. Speaker, I know the entire House of Representatives joins me in paying tribute to Doc Samko, and we wish him and his family all the best in the years to come.

HONORING THE BOULDER CITY HOMETOWN FIDDLERS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to give honorable recognition to the Boulder City Hometown Fiddlers. This talented youth organization is the only musical group from the state of Nevada that will be performing at the dedication of the WWII Memorial.

Mr. Speaker, these young musicians will truly be honoring our veterans and fallen heroes, including those that died in wars past, and those that have died recently in the war with Iraq. The Boulder City Hometown Fiddlers will also be paying tribute to one of Nevada's own, Corporal Matthew Commons, of Boulder City. Corporal Commons was killed while serving in Afghanistan.

They will represent the Silver State and all those within its borders who wish to pay tribute to those brave men and women who gave their lives in the name of freedom and democracy. It is with great honor that I stand here today and recognize this group of fine musicians as they convey our honor, respect, and gratitude to all those that died and risked their lives for their country.

HONORING COACH TIM MARZUOLA'S ELECTION INTO THE NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a legend in high school wrestling in Texas, Coach Tim Marzuola of Highland Park High School. Coach Marzuola has been elected as a member of the 2004 induction class for the National Wrestling Hall of Fame located in Stillwater, Oklahoma. I am proud to represent Highland Park in Congress, and I have four graduates of Highland Park High School that serve in my Dallas and Washington, D.C offices. My Washington office Chief of Staff wrestled for Coach Marzuola back when he was at Highland Park High School.

In 1999, Highland Park's wrestling team was nationally ranked and Coach Marzuola was a national high school coach of the year award-winner. The Scots won state titles in 1999, 2000, and 2003 and placed second in 2002 and 2004. Coach Marzuola has guided the Scots since 1982, and last year he was named as a coach for the tremendously successful Team Texas program. He was inducted into Texas Hall of Honor in 1994. I am very proud that he is being recognized nationally for over twenty years of diligent service to wrestling in Highland Park.

Coach Marzuola's commitment to his team on and off of the mats is exceptional, as he has set a standard for excellence within his sport. Coach Tim Marzuola has provided his athletes with exceptional leadership and inspiration, emphasizing to each student the necessary traits of individual responsibility, accountability, and working as a team to accomplish a common goal.

I thank Coach Marzuola for his tireless efforts and service to the greater Highland Park community. In addition to his duties as the Head Wresting Coach, he also is a superb Economics and United States History teacher inside the classroom. I wish him and the Highland Park wrestling program all the best for continued success and achievement.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF RON AND SHARON ESKEW OF URBANA, ILLINOIS

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the marriage of my good friends Ron and Sharon Eskew of Urbana, Illinois. April 3, 2004, marked the 50th anniversary of the day that they exchanged wedding vows and started a long, happy life together. Ron Eskew, of Urbana, met his future wife Sharon Campbell at Urbana High School in the early 1950's. They were married in the spring of 1953. The bond created by their marriage has only grown stronger in the past 5 decades, even during Ron's active duty in the United States Army. After his service, the couple returned to their roots in Urbana, picking up right where they left off. I have known the Eskews for many years. In fact, when I was a young man working for a real estate business, I had the pleasure of selling them one of their first houses in 1969. Throughout the years, Ron and Sharon have filled that house with love and a family so caring and appreciative of the example they set that they believe the rest of our country's citizens should know their happiness as well. Ron and Sharon's children certainly admire their devotion to one another after all these years. 50 years is an important milestone few married couples are fortunate enough to experience. I salute Ron and Sharon Eskew of Urbana, Illinois on their 50 happy years together, and wish them the best for many years to come.

HONORING GINGER L. GRAHAM AND DR. WILLIAM H. RASTETTER

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two leaders in the health care industry from my Congressional District who have been elected to the Board of Directors for The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA). PhRMA companies are devoted to discovering and developing new medicines that will enable patients to live longer, healthier and more productive lives. In 2002 the companies invested more than $32 billion in discovering and developing new medicines, marking the 32nd straight year the industry has increased its investment in R&D. PhRMA's mission is to conduct effective advocacy for public policies that encourage discovery of important new medicines for patients by pharmaceutical biotechnology research companies.

The experience and expertise of Ms. Ginger L. Graham, and Dr. William H. Rastetter will bring San Diego's unique perspective to PhRMA, the association that represents the leading research-based pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies in the United States.

Ms. Ginger L. Graham has an impressive resume. In 1986, she received her MBA from Harvard University, which began her career at Lilly. During Ms. Graham's time at Lilly she held management positions in finance, sales, marketing, and strategic planning. In 1993, she was appointed president and CEO of Advanced Cardiovascular Systems. Ms. Graham was then a part of the team that formed Guidant, a medical technology company. After taking Guidant public in 1994, she became the president of Guidant's Vascular Intervention Group. Ms. Graham also held the position of Group Chairman, Office of the President, at Guidant. She is currently the President, CEO, and Director of Amylin Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Ms. Graham is the first female ever to be appointed to the board of directors at Phrma.

Dr. William H. Rastetter received his Ph.D. in 1975 from Harvard. Between 1975 and 1982, he held numerous faculty positions at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He directed the Biocatalysts and Chemical Sciences Groups at Genentech from 1982 to 1984. From 1988 to 1993, Dr. Rastetter held the position of chief financial officer of IDEC Pharmaceuticals. Then he became president and CEO of IDEC from 1986 to 2002. During this time Dr. Rastetter was appointed chairman of the IDEC board of directors. Dr. Rastetter is currently the executive chairman of Biogen Idec, Inc.

These two highly qualified individuals have devoted their careers to improving health care by bringing new pharmaceutical products through research and development and into the marketplace. I am proud that these two companies from my Congressional District will be represented on the PhRMA Board. San Diego has attained the position as the third largest life science cluster in the world, and is also renowned for being the most highly concentrated and one of the most diverse centers for life science. As the industry in San Diego grows and develops further, these two individuals are uniquely positioned to place San Diego's fingerprint on the pharmaceutical industry. As a stalwart supporter of medical research, I am dedicated to ensuring that America's healthcare system remains the best in the world and to promoting policies that encourage increased healthcare innovation. I look forward to working with Ms. Graham and Dr. Rastetter on public policy initiatives.

TRIBUTE TO TONY RANDALL

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness to mourn the loss of award-winning actor and passionate social activist Tony Randall who passed away Monday night, May 17th. Though most remembered for his comedic role as Felix Unger in the T.V. series ''The Odd Couple,'' Mr. Randall was a truly versatile performer with a career on stage and screen spanning over sixty years.

After serving four years in the army during World War II, where he rose to the rank of Lieutenant, Mr. Randall made many radio and theater appearances, garnering numerous accolades from critics. By the early 1950s, Mr. Randall made the shift to television, with his Emmy-nominated role of schoolteacher Harvey Weskit in ''Mr. Peepers.'' Soon after, he added movies to his resume, with principal roles in films like the Doris Day-Rock Hudson comedy ''Pillow Talk,'' earning the title from Life magazine of ''the finest . . . comedian the movies have found in decades.'' He crowned his career with his Emmy-award winning role as the worrywart Felix Unger in the Odd Couple, a role that brought him a legion of fans.

However, Tony Randall will be remembered as more than just an actor. He was also a devoted social activist who for 30 years held the position of National Chairman of the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation, an organization dedicated to finding a cure for the terrible neuromuscular disease, Myasthenia. Whether it was his vociferous anti-smoking lobbying, his anti-Apartheid campaign, or his attempt to save the old Metropolitan Opera house, Mr. Randall worked with passion and zeal. Mr. Randall brought this same passion to the National Actors Theater, which he founded in 1991, dedicated to bringing classic works to the public for reasonable prices.

His tireless devotion to his craft and to social justice should be an example to us all. I would like to extend my deepest condolences to Mr. Randall's wife and two children. For years he has touched millions of Americans. He will be sorely missed.

HONORING 50 YEARS OF HISTORY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Association of Retarded Citizens of Morris County, New Jersey in my Congressional District. The ARC is celebrating fifty years of providing excellence in community service.

In July of 1953, several families in Morris County formed a unit of the New Jersey Parents Group for Retarded Children. They soon began to fill the void and developed their own services; the Play Center was established as well as the Teen Club. Several years later, the first scouting program serving boys with mental retardation was added. The groups advocated with local school districts, and, out of those efforts, special classes were started for those people with retardation who were considered educable or trainable. By the close of its first decade, it recognized the critical importance of getting services to people with developmental delays at the youngest possible age, the unit established a nursery school for children with special needs.

In the 1960s the families of the Morris Unit continued to make strides to change the world for people with mental retardation. A second nursery school was opened and in 1969 a site was dedicated as Camp Sundial in Chester.

Federal legislation, which provided increased funding and mandated more stringent standards for institutions, was enacted, and more significantly, the appropriateness of institutional care ''per se'' began to be questioned. Advocates came together to create a service to fill this need. They raised the funds necessary to open the first Adult Activities Program, a forerunner of their Adult Training and Rehabilitation Centers. By the end of the 1970s, the Morris County Recreation Consortium was created, and the Early Childhood Enrichment programs developed, both of which would later evolve into programs that would represent a new era in community-based services.

In October 1982, they dedicated their first Adult Training Center, located in Flanders. In the 1980's and 1990's the ARC/Morris County Chapter continued to expand and diversify its programs and services and also developed many group homes that allowed for greater independent living. This organization went from a small parent support group, to a movement that changed millions of lives for the better, and along the way, countless other lives and communities have benefited and will continue to well into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues in the House of Representatives join with me in congratulating the Association of Retarded Citizens of Morris County, and all of the Association's outstanding staff, employees and volunteers, upon celebrating its 50th Anniversary.

RECOGNIZING LOCKHEED MARTIN-PIKE COUNTY'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVICE TO AMERICA

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute a milestone in the defense of our Nation. This month, Lockheed Martin's Pike County, Alabama missile assembly facility will mark ten years of production.

This event is more than an anniversary. It represents a decade of service to America's defense preparedness by some of the finest, best trained workers in the nation.

Lockheed Martin-Pike County has become synonymous with both precision craftsmanship and on-target results. Some of the most advanced military weapon assets on the battlefield have rolled off, and continue, to roll off the assembly lines at the Pike County facility.

From the Hellfire, to the JASSM, to the Javelin, to the Predator, to the soon to be produced THAAD and LAM systems, Lockheed Martin-Pike County is the final assembly point and the guarantee that lives will be saved on the battlefield and our nation will be more secure at home.

This moment is also a source of pride for me as I have personally secured billions of dollars in missile system work for Lockheed Martin-Pike County over the last decade—work that has not only benefited the local economy but made it possible for our nation to succeed in the face of an ever elusive enemy.

Of particular note, I have personally advocated the further development of the THAAD anti-missile system which is also noting a milestone this month—the first rollout at the Lockheed Martin-Pike County plant. THAAD is an important component of our layered defense against a ballistic missile threat.

I am proud of the contributions of the 286 workers of Lockheed Martin-Pike County to keep our country safe. Job well done.

NAVAJO NATION HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 2004

HON. RICK RENZI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Navajo Nation Higher Education Act of 2004.

In 1868, the United States of America signed a treaty with the Navajo Tribe of Indians to provide for the education of the citizens of the Navajo Nation. At this time, the United States government recognized the trust responsibility to serve the educational needs of the Navajo people.

In 1968, the Navajo Nation created and chartered the Navajo Community College as a wholly-owned educational entity of the Navajo Nation. In 1971, Congress affirmed this effort by the Navajo Nation and enacted the Navajo Community College Act. In 1997, the Navajo Nation officially changed the name of the Navajo Community College to Diné College.

Mr. Speaker, the Navajo Nation Higher Education Act reauthorizes the 1971 Navajo Community College Act and modernizes the statute by including the mission statement and Navajo education philosophy of Diné College. Diné College educates students by applying the principles of Diné philosophy to advance quality student learning through training of the heart and the mind.

Over the years, facilities at Diné College have deteriorated, creating serious health safety risks to students, employees and the public. This legislation provides funding to address Diné College's facility needs such as modernization, repair and rehabilitation. In addition, this important legislation requires a survey and study of Diné College's facility needs.

Finally, to ensure equitable funding for Diné College, the Navajo Nation Higher Education Act provides funding for Diné College separate from the other tribal colleges and universities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Navajo Nation Higher Education Act of 2004. It is our government's responsibility to provide educational opportunities to the Navajo people in a safe and healthy environment.

RECOGNIZING MEGAN N. WORTHMAN OF THE FOURTH DISTRICT OF COLORADO FOR WINNING THE VETERAN OF FOREIGN WARS 2004 VOICE OF DEMOCRACY BROADCAST SCRIPTWRITING CONTEST

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor all of America's veterans who have served our country for the cause of freedom. The Veterans of Foreign Wars is a fine organization that deserves our praise for striving to instill an understanding of responsibility to country. This year, more than 80,000 secondary school students participated in the Voice of Democracy audio/essay competition designed to give high school students the opportunity to voice their opinion on their responsibility to our country. The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its Ladies Auxiliary selected the theme ''My Commitment to America's Future'' for this year's annual contest.

I am pleased to announce that Ms. Megan N. Worthman from the Fourth District of Colorado won the 2004 Voice of Democracy broadcast scriptwriting contest for this year. Her work exemplifies excellence and is worthy of recognition. It is inspiring to see such commitment to America in a young person, and I applaud her fine work.

Her essay reads as follows:

2003–2004 VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST—''MY COMMITMENT TO AMERICA'S FUTURE''

When I was about 7 years old, my grandfather gave me his Naval uniform. I listened to him for hours recounting his journeys in the Pacific. Although he was a radio operator and never saw action, I loved that he lived in such an important time, and he was sharing his experiences with me. When he gave me his thick blue World War II uniform, I was so excited. He gave me a very important piece of him, and I was proud to wear a part of American history. That same pride reflected in his eyes as I tried it on. Of course it was way too big for me, the bottom hem brushing on the floor, the sleeves well past my fingertips, and his hat falling down over my eyes and resting on my nose. That uniform is still to big for me, but I hope to grow into it. I know I will never fit into it physically, but I will grow into its image, to become a better person, and a better American.

My commitment is to become that American who embodies the image laid out over two centuries, to become the American that so many others died for. When I was in grade school, about second or third grade, I became really interested in World War II, and the history of my country. I also started to learn about the principles that were the foundation of this country. Later on in fourth grade, I had set my sights on the Air Force Academy, or at least measure up to the high standard they have. To be one of the few who can give all they possess to their country. Now, my goal is to uphold the Constitution and teach my family and those around me the morals and values that have defined America for so long. I am, and will become a more complete person and start to fit into that uniform.

Good Americans are those who work hard for what they believe in, and respect all those trying to accomplish the same. Even today, as a young High School student, I practice the Constitutional rights entitled to myself and those around me. Everyone has an opinion and the natural right to let it be heard. Everyone also has a different background and heritage, and should be respected for it, no matter what. I will give my time and resources to others who cannot support themselves because it is my obligation. I have the privilege of family, health and happiness. Because of these gifts, I will help others find and button up their own tailored uniforms.

''We hold these truths to be self evident that all men are created equal.'' That is my commitment. These words echoed through Independence Hall over 200 years ago and were very important to the early framers of our nation. These words make me realize that my commitment is no small one; I will give all of me to my country and my fellow Americans.

Other Americans have set the standard, the uniform, for all of us to grow into. Other Americans have given their lives for a few words written on a piece of paper two centuries ago. The least I can do is to uphold those values and pass them on. It is my duty and my commitment to go to school and learn about the people who influenced our ideas and values of today. The people who gave their lives for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and to learn about those who tried to take it away. It is my duty to learn about my neighbor and other cultures. The great thinker Voltaire said, ''I might not agree with what you have to say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.'' This held true many years ago, and still holds enormous value today. It is important to learn from the past, other cultures and other people. When I graduate high school and finish college, suddenly the hem on my uniform seems farther from the ground.

When I volunteer my time to my community, or help my little brother with his homework, my fingers appear at the ends of my sleeves. When I listen to both sides of the argument, my hat fits a little better. When I become a better person by reading, volunteering, teaching and learning, I start to mature and fill out the uniform. When I respect all people, when I learn about foreign cultures, my commitment begins to show and becomes a beacon for others to see.

Everyone has a different uniform. For some, it could be a military one. For others, it could be a business suit, a doctor's smock, an athletic uniform or a construction jacket. However, everyone's uniform is made of the same materials; commitment, hard work, love, respect and time. Everyone's uniform is intertwined with everyone else's, and if one of us is missing, the fabric of America cannot be whole. Everyone has an important role to play, and I intend to do my part to succeed in whatever my role may be. My commitment is a I lifelong one, and it seeded when I was 7, listening to another American recount his experiences.

INTRODUCING THE DISCHARGED COMBAT VETERANS MEDICAL CARE EXTENSION ACT

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Discharged Combat Veterans Medical Care Extension Act. I offer this legislation with the distinguished gentleman from Illinois, Mr. Evans, the senior Democrat on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and 13 other original cosponsors.

Our bill would extend from two years to five years the time in which combat veterans may receive free care from VA medical facilities without having to document that their illnesses are the result of their military service. The legislation will also allow more time for medical assessments and data analysis for the returning veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The lack of scientific knowledge regarding the relationship between military deployment and long-term health often hinders the VA's ability to establish the required connection between service and health consequences. Although the current two-year period allows for the collection of some health information, symptoms resulting from deployment may remain hidden until years later, as demonstrated by illnesses related to service during the Persian Gulf War.

VA physicians have never treated many types of the severe brain injuries, facial trauma or illnesses from exposure to dangerous substances that result from service in Iraq and Afghanistan. Therefore, additional time is needed to stabilize, diagnose and treat those injuries and illnesses.

We made a promise to our veterans to care for them after they returned from war. Accordingly, our troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan deserve open access to VA medical facilities as they heal from injuries and as their service-connected illnesses begin to appear.

As this Memorial Day approaches, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Discharged Combat Veterans Medical Care Extension Act. This bill will go a long way toward helping our veterans recover and entitle them to the care they deserve for their valor and service to our nation.

INTRODUCTION OF GUAM WAGE PARITY BILL

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to correct an anomaly in the treatment of the Federal blue-collar workforce in Guam by providing for parity in their wage schedules and rates. These are the wage schedules issued under the Federal Wage System, the uniform pay-setting system Congress established by law in 1972 for Federal ''prevailing rate employees'' who are paid based upon an hourly rate (P.L. 92–392).

Administered by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), the Federal Wage System is designed to ensure that pay rates for Federal trade, craft, and laboring employees are in line with prevailing levels of pay for comparable levels of work in the private sector within a local wage area. The system is also meant to eliminate inequities that would otherwise occur within the Federal Government and between the various agencies employing citizens in a local wage area.

OPM has designated the Department of Defense (DoD) as the lead agency for establishing the pay rates and issuing all wage schedules. OPM has currently defined 131 appropriated fund and 125 non-appropriated fund

local wage areas within the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Schedules and rates are developed for each wage area based upon a survey conducted by DoD. OPM regulation however provides that a separate schedule shall be issued for Guam with rates identical to those used for prevailing rate employees in foreign areas. Regulation also provides that the rates for foreign areas shall be an average of all wage area rates set by OPM for the United States. Under these circumstances, the prevailing rate employees in Guam are treated no differently in terms of their pay rates than if they were working in a foreign area (outside the United States). This is a matter of concern to me which I am seeking to address with the introduction of this legislation.

Guam's unique economic conditions, given its geographical isolation and the fact that it is a high cost of living area, have placed the hard working prevailing rate employees in Guam at an unfair disadvantage when compared to those that are employed in an OPM-defined local wage area. Hawaii, Alaska, and Puerto Rico, unlike Guam, are each currently defined to be their own separate wage areas and benefit from wage schedules that take into account their economic situation and cost of living environment. Guam should be treated no differently and have a wage schedule that reflects the cost of living and the level of pay for government-wage-grade-equivalent jobs in the private sector.

Therefore I have introduced this bill to provide equitable treatment for Guam, not by directing OPM to establish a separate wage area for Guam but by simply applying the same rates used for the State of Hawaii, which sustains a similar island economy with most comparable trades and blue-collar workforces.

It is generally understood that the reason Guam has been issued a separate schedule each year by regulation and has not been defined as a separate wage area, is that the number of comparable positions in Guam's private industry may be insufficient under the current standards to warrant its own wage survey and designation as a separate wage area. In passing the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002, Congress required DoD, when establishing wage schedules and rates for prevailing rate employees, to consider rates paid for comparable positions in private industry in the nearest wage area that is most similar to the wage area for which wage rates are being established when there are insufficient positions in the local industry upon which to establish wage schedules and rates (Sec. 1113 of P.L. 107–107). The legislation I am introducing today is consistent with this intent.

This bill would greatly enhance the economic viability of the prevailing rate employees in Guam, is in the public interest, and is, in my opinion, in conformance with the goal of the Federal Wage System. This is a sensible policy proposal that would ensure regional equity in wage rates. I look forward to working with OPM, DoD, the House Committee on Government Reform, and the House Committee on Armed Services, in addressing the concern over the current inequity and treatment of Guam under the Federal Wage System that this bill seeks to correct.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 775

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, many of our immigration laws are no longer consistent with our national security and other vital interests.

The diversity visa or visa lottery system is one such example. The visa lottery was established by the Immigration Act of 1990 to offer the opportunity of immigration to individuals in countries that had been sending few immigrants to the United States.

Usually, immigrant visas are issued to foreign nationals that have an existing connection with a family member lawfully residing in the United States or with a U.S. employer. These types of relationships help ensure that immigrants entering the country have a stake in continuing America's success, and have the advanced skills necessary to contribute to the nation's economy. However, under the visa lottery program, visas are awarded to immigrants at random with no such safety precautions.

I have heard from immigrants who have legally come to the country, and they believe the visa lottery program is unfair to immigrants who comply with the United States' immigration laws. Also, the visa lottery program does not prohibit illegal aliens from applying to receive a visa through the program.

The program has many flaws. A recent report released by the Center for Immigration Studies shows that it is commonplace for foreign nationals to apply for the lottery program multiple times using different aliases and false personal information.

I support Congressman Goodlatte's bill, H.R. 775, The Security and Fairness Enhancement for America Act, which would terminate the visa lottery. This piece of legislation is an important and positive step in immigration reform and it is my hope that the House considers it in the near future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM OF ALEXANDRIA HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Girls Softball Team of Alexandria High School in Calhoun County, Alabama. On May 15, 2004, these young ladies won the 4–A Girls Softball State Championship.

Congratulations to Amy Brown, Whitney Burt, Stevie Smith, Hollie Henderson, Allie Barker, Anna Pitts, Lindy Baird, Whitney Hurst, Haley Henderson, Hali Lash, Jordan Brown and Alyssa Brown. Thanks to Coaches Brian Hess and Toni Duncan for their leadership and the support of Manager Sara Borders and Bookkeeper Donya Barker.

I know that Calhoun County, Alabama, and the entire Third District share with me their best wishes for this accomplishment. Only through hard work, dedication and a team effort could this be achieved. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

COMMEMORATING THE 63RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF CRETE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 63rd anniversary of the Battle of Crete. Last year, I introduced H. Res. 244 which recognizes and appreciates the historical significance of the people of Crete during World War II.

This is a historic event with direct significance to the Allies' victory of World War II. On May 20, 1941, thousands of German paratroopers and gliders began landing on Crete. Both the Allies and Nazis wanted Crete because of its strategic location. At that time the British controlled the island. It was a very strong point on the lifeline to India and protected both Palestine and Egypt.

The Nazi invasion force included the elite German paratroopers and glider troops. Hitler felt this was to be an easy victory, yet he is quoted to have said shortly after the invasion, ''France fell in 8 days. Why is Crete free?''

The invasion of Crete took 11 days. It resulted in more than 6,000 German troopers listed as killed, wounded or missing in action. The losses to the elite 7th parachute division were felt so hard by the German Military it signified the end of large-scale airborne operations.

This valiant fight by the Cretan people began in the first hour of the Nazi airborne invasion, in contrast to the European underground movements that took a year or more after being invaded to activate.

Young boys, old men and women displayed breathtaking bravery in defending their Crete. German soldiers never got used to Cretan women fighting them. They would tear the dress from the shoulders of suspected women to find bruises from the recoil of the rifle. The penalty was death.

The Times (London) July 28, 1941, reported that ''five hundred Cretan women have been deported to Germany for taking part in the defense of their native island.''

Another surprise for the German soldiers who invaded Crete was the heroic resistance of the clergy. A priest leading his parishioners into battle was not what the Germans anticipated. At Paleochora, Father Stylianos Frantzeskis, hearing of the German airborne invasion, rushed to his church, sounded the bell, took his rifle and marched his volunteers toward Maleme to write history.

This struggle became an example for all Europe to follow in defying German occupation and aggression.

The price paid by the Cretans for their valiant resistance to Nazi forces was high. Thousands of civilians died from random executions, starvation, and imprisonment. Entire communities were burned and destroyed by the Germans as a reprisal for the Cretan resistance movement. Yet this resistance lasted for four years.

The battle of Crete was to change the final outcome of World War II. The Battle of Crete

significantly contributed in delaying Hitler's plan to invade Russia. The invasion was delayed from April to June of 1941. The 2–month delay in the invasion made Hitler's forces face the Russian winter.

The Russian snowstorms and the sub zero temperatures eventually stalled the Nazi invasion before they could take Moscow or Leningrad. This was the beginning of the downfall of the Nazi reign of terror.

This significant battle and the heroic drive of the Cretan people must always be remembered and honored.

Democracy came from Greece and the Cretan heroes exemplified the courage it takes to preserve it.

Today, the courage and fortitude of the Cretan people is seen in the members of the United Cretan Associations of New York which is located in Astoria, Queens.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the Cretans in the United States, Greece, and the diaspora.

INTRODUCTION OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS BILL

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, if we knew that there was going to be a terrorist attack sometime in the next 5 years but did not know what kind of attack it would be, who would carry it out, or where in the United States it would occur, what actions would we take to prepare and how would we allocate our human and financial resources to do so?

The tragic events of September 11, 2001 brought home to the American people the magnitude of the danger posed by terrorism on U.S. soil. Now, almost 3 years later, we as Americans must assume that terrorists will strike again, possibly using chemical, biological, radiological or even nuclear materials. The unthinkable has become thinkable

After the horrific September 11th terrorist attacks, the country pulled together and we began to take steps to make our homeland more secure. We enacted legislation to overhaul our airport security; we provided new border security measures; we created the Department of Homeland Security.

And yet, despite the steps that have been made, many believe that our Nation is in even more danger today than it was 3 years ago. In fact, Administration officials recently announced that they expect another terrorist attack here in the United States before November. They have resigned themselves to the inevitability of more terrorist attacks and are warning us—the American public—to be prepared.

Despite our awareness of the very real threat of terrorism here at home and despite renewed efforts to prepare since September 11, we remain, as a country, dangerously ill-prepared to handle another catastrophic attack on American soil.

That is simply unacceptable.

Much more needs to be done to make Americans safer and more secure than they are today. Securing our homeland must be the number-one priority of our Government. Indeed, our Nation's very charter—the Constitution—in its preamble states clearly that among the first priorities of Government is to provide for the common defense. Improving the safety of the American people at home must be undertaken as aggressively as pursuing terrorists in far-off lands.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce an appropriations measure that will provide the resources needed to secure our hometowns and ensure our police, fire fighters and paramedics—the Nation's first responders—are fully prepared for anything they may face.

Unfortunately, our efforts have too often been—as we say in Texas—a day late and a dollar short. In this case, however, the $3 billion shortfall contemplated by the budget passed yesterday is dangerous and unconscionable.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce an appropriations measure that would meet these critical needs and would—

Improve Our Hometown Response Capabilities by providing. $3.874 billion for the Office for Domestic Preparedness; $180 million for Emergency Management Performance Grants; $800 million for Fire Grants; $60 million for Metropolitan Medical Response System grants; $515 million for Hospital Preparedness Grants (in HHS); $940 million in Bioterrorism Aid to Health Departments (in HHS); and $250 million in Rail and Transit Security Grants.

Secure Our Borders and Meet Airport Security Mandates by providing: $700 million for Federal Air Marshals; $650 million for explosive detection systems purchase and installation; $100 million for air cargo screening; $250 million for port security grants; $161 million for the Container Security Initiative; $400 million on border and port inspection and surveillance technology, including radiation portal monitors in U.S. ports; $50 million for radiation portal monitors at overseas ports (in DOE); $100 million more for border patrol and inspector staffing; $96 million for the northern border airwing expansion; and $50 million more for bus, trucking and port pilot grants.

Mr. Speaker, we have nothing less than a moral obligation to ensure that our nation is fully prepared and vigorously defended. We have troops deployed around the world fighting the war on terror, but we cannot forget our frontline defenders here at home.

I urge my colleagues in this, the People's House, to act now to provide our police; officers, our firefighters, our paramedics and all other emergency personnel the equipment and support they need to protect our hometowns. I hope the House will take up this carefully drafted piece of legislation soon and provide our Nation the security we need.

PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITIES FROM WILDFIRE

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, given current drought forecasts and the condition of Utah's forests, this year's fire season is expected to be very difficult and expensive. Today, I am introducing legislation, along with my colleagues Congressman DICKS and Congresswoman HOOLEY, to provide $500 million in Emergency Supplemental funding for the Forest Service and the Department of Interior to maintain our nation's wildland firefighting efforts this year.

We all know how devastating it would be if the Forest Service and Department of Interior were to stop fighting fires because of a lack of funding. Without passage of this legislation, it is likely that these agencies will quickly deplete the funds that Congress designated for this fire season. When this funding runs out, the Forest Service will be forced to choose between cutting back its firefighting efforts or taking funding away from other essential forestry programs. As a result of funding concerns, the Forest Service and the Department of Interior have employed almost 3,000 fewer firefighters this season than they did at the same time last year. The legislation I am introducing today would provide the additional funding that is needed to employ more firefighters and protect our communities from the devastating effects of wildfires.

The passage of this bill is critical to protecting the health of forests and communities in my home state of Utah. We've seen too much devastation and damage in recent years due to the extreme drought conditions in the West. I am committed to the passage of this legislation as an important step toward protecting Utah's communities from the devastating effects of forest fires.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROWN v. BOARD OF EDUCATION

HON. KAREN McCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, a landmark Supreme Court case that gave rise to Linda Brown's dream of equality in education in this country, a dream deferred that has become for many a broken promise.

The 1954 Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision marked a turning point in our history and incited a movement to break down barriers of race that had long plagued communities across the nation. It helped pave the road toward integral measures such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Voting Rights Act of 1965 and Fair Housing Act of 1968 and began the movement for desegregation. Chief Justice Earl Warren felt the ruling was so historic he issued a rare public statement: ''We conclude that in the field of public education, the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place.'' In declaring segregation unconstitutional, the Supreme Court mandated a focus on equality not only in education, but also in public transportation, accommodations and commerce.

The Brown v. Board of Education decision demanded that all Americans be entitled to the fundamental right to equal educational opportunities, regardless of race, and the resources to achieve their dreams. But by the time Martin Luther King, Jr. addressed America from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1963, nearly ten years later, that promise remained unfulfilled. And half a century later, with the convulsing explosions of the Civil Rights Movement behind us, the future assured to

Linda Brown in that historic ruling has been approached, but not yet reached. And we are left to wonder, like Langston Hughes in his poem "A Dream Deferred," whether those promises, if not fulfilled, will one day cease to exist.

Fifty years ago, Linda Brown, a third grader in Topeka, Kansas, and her father had the courage to protest the long accepted "separate but equal" principle that required her to walk for over an hour every morning because she was not permitted to attend the white-only school just blocks from her house. On May 17, 1954, the Supreme Court struck down the "badge of inferiority for African Americans" that the principle of "separate but equal" had come to signify.

This week we honor all those who fought for the dream of equality of opportunity: the valiant families who came forward in these five cases; the NAACP legal defense team, including Charles Hamilton Houston, Thurgood Marshall, Robert L. Carter, Kenneth B. Clark and Judge Constance Motley; and the community which held on to the dream through years of bitter opposition and violent protest in the South. But half a century later, urban and rural schools across America lack the funding to provide equal education opportunities for all students.

An Education Trust study released last week reveals alarming statistics about the state of education: Minority students are about three years behind other students by the time they reach eighth grade; 17-year-old African American and Latino students have reading and math skills similar to those of 13-year-old white students; and African American and Latino and American Indian youth are less likely to be enrolled in full college prep coursework.

No Child Left Behind, underfunded by $27 billion, could achieve the dream of Brown v. Board of Education if provided with the resources to dismantle unequal opportunities and enhance the quality of education for every community. Fifty years after Brown, we continue to make promises we cannot keep.

As we remember today the dream of Linda Brown and the courageous civil rights leaders to whom we owe our progress, let us remember that the most fitting tribute to them is a continued effort to fulfill their vision for our nation. Let us continue the promise of Brown by breaking down the barriers that still persist in our classrooms and giving schools the resources they need to provide a safe and productive learning environment for our children.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this historic anniversary and renewing the effort to achieve the promise of Brown v. Board of Education: equal educational opportunities for all children. Let us not defer the dream any longer.

REFORM OUR OUTDATED IMMIGRATION LAWS AND POLICIES

HON. BRAD CARSON

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge that Congress make it a top priority to reform our outdated immigration laws and policies.

The tragic events of September 11th awakened most Americans to the fact that our immigration system is seriously flawed and overwhelmed by the massive numbers of foreign visitors and immigrants flowing through it into our country. We all saw then that immigration policy has serious national security impacts and weaknesses. Since that time, Congress and the Executive Branch have made a number of statutory, regulatory and policy changes that have addressed from a homeland security perspective some of the many systemic flaws in thus immigration process. Of course, a great deal remains to be done to ensure appropriate levels of safety for America.

We still have 12 to 15 million, or even more, foreign immigrants living and working here illegally. Fortunately, most are not security threats and are simply seeking to improve their economic status by working here where they can make much more than in their home countries. But, undoubtedly some number are here to do us harm either as terrorists, or, more likely, by engaging in criminal activities. We must continue working to identify and expel those who pose such public safety threats.

We also must address the fundamental issue of reducing the extraordinary immigration numbers that we are experiencing year after year. I believe that immigration is a good thing, and most immigrants are good people, here seeking the American Dream. However, I have no doubt that the extremely high numbers of legal and illegal immigrants we have been allowing to come here in recent years represent "too much of a good thing"—numbers matter, and simply put, our immigration numbers, two-thirds of which are due to legal admissions, are excessive. This is especially so given the changing nature of America's labor markets, where low-skilled workers find their jobs disappearing or wages stagnating. Our labor market clearly does not need the roughly 1½ million new immigrants who move to the United States every year. Inordinately high numbers of immigrants, most of whom are less educated and relatively low skilled are having real, and often adverse, impacts on American life.

Citizens and earlier immigrants, who often remain lower skilled and less educated, are suffering serious job and wage losses due to the continuing massive cheap foreign labor inflows. Such problems would be greatly lessened if we reduce both legal and illegal immigration to more moderate and sustainable levels. Congress today has the power to do so, by reviewing legal immigration policy and by genuinely enforcing a policy against illegal immigration.

We have been experiencing such a large immigrant inflow now for several decades due both to lax enforcement and more importantly to statutory changes made in the 1980s and 1990s that opened the immigration floodgates to an unprecedented degree. Congress essentially reset the immigration thermostat and forgot about it, despite the increasingly obvious and serious impacts this has been having.

Congress can no longer ignore the immigration numbers issue. In addition to ensuring better enforcement of our laws so as to radically curtail illegal inflows, we must readjust legal admission policies to ensure that legal immigration fits the reality of America's 21st century labor market. It has been recognized for years by those who have bothered to examine how our current system works that statutory changes are needed to eliminate a number of unnecessary admission categories. For example, the Immigration Reform Commission, chaired by the late Rep. Barbara Jordan, recommended repealing the visa lottery, which allows thousands of people to come here merely because their name was drawn in a lottery, and the extended family visa categories which spawn literally endless chain migration.

For starters, I believe that we need to reduce legal admission numbers by ending the visa lottery and the so-called extended family categories that fuel foreign worker inflow by chain migration. A positive first step at reforming our outdated immigration laws would be to pass H.R. 775, the Goodlatte bill that repeals the visa lottery. As a cosponsor of that bill, I urge the House Leadership and the Judiciary Committee to act to bring the bill before the full House for action, and to advance other legislation to ensure that our legal immigration policy, coupled with our blind eye toward illegal immigration, are reviewed.

RECOGNITION OF CLEAN OCEAN ACTION IN HONOR OF THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary work of Clean Ocean Action, and to recognize their significant contributions over the years, as they celebrate their 20th Anniversary this weekend. Clean Ocean Action (COA) was established in 1984, by individuals who had a deep-rooted concern for the environment, as well as a desire to help maintain the cleanliness of our oceans. Today, we can say with great certainty that the waters off the New Jersey and New York coast have benefited a great deal thanks to the efforts of COA, and its volunteers and the many citizens who have participated in COA activities.

In commemorating their 20th Anniversary, COA certainly has much to celebrate. Since its inception, this group has organized over 30,600 volunteers for bi-annual beach cleanups that have led to the removal of millions of pieces of trash and debris that typically pollute our coast. COA has compiled statistical information on the trash collected during their sweeps, which provide a very valuable tool to determine the leading source of debris pollution on our beaches and in our coastal waters. The Beach Sweeps were also chosen as a "Local Legacy," for the 200th celebration of the Library of Congress.

As a passionate supporter of our oceans and our coastline, I am mindful of the world of indebtedness that we owe to this organization. The selfless acts of groups such as the COA, and the volunteers they organize, often go without official recognition or praise. However, we all benefit and are grateful for the work that they do and it is imperative that we support their efforts. Therefore, I pause today to thank Clean Ocean Action for their tireless efforts and I ask my colleagues to do the same.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate COA on their anniversary, and offer them the highest praise for the fine and

important work they have done over the past twenty years.

THE LONG TERM CARE SUPPORT AND INCENTIVE ACT OF 2004

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about an important issue facing our community: the affordability of long-term care. People today are living longer and healthier lives than ever before.

When the Declaration of Independence was signed, the average life expectancy was 23. In the United States today, life expectancy at birth is 80 years.

While this increased life expectancy is allowing us to live fuller lives, it is also presenting us with serious financial challenges. Half of all older Americans who live alone will ''spend'' themselves into poverty after only 13 weeks in a nursing home.

My own family had to make difficult emotional and financial decisions when my father needed care. My dad was a pediatrician, and always lived a full life. When he needed care, my sister and I struggled to find the perfect place for him to live.

We wanted to make sure he was happy and received high quality medical care. We searched for months to find the right place for our dad and we learned very quickly how expensive long-term care is. Fortunately, we had the financial resources to take care of him, but many families do not.

My experience with my dad renewed my commitment to improve our long-term care system. I took on this mission in Congress and I am pleased today to reintroduce the Long Term Care Support and Incentive Act. This much needed legislation will make a real difference for San Diegans caring for older family members.

First, the bill will give a $4,000 tax credit for seniors with long-term care needs and their caregivers. We know how many sacrifices families make to take care of their loved ones. They miss work, or in some cases are forced to give up their jobs. They pay for expensive medical supplies and equipment, and bare the burden of enormous medical bills. This tax credit will help ease their financial burden.

The second section of my legislation will establish a tax deduction for long-term care insurance premiums. As the long-term care needs in our community increase, we must face the reality that many seniors do not have family or friends to take care of them full time.

This is particularly important to women. Women live longer than men. Often times, women are the primary caregivers for their husbands. After their husbands pass away, there is often no one around to take care of them.

Long-Term Care Insurance can help fill this gap, but premiums can be expensive. My legislation will make long-term care insurance more affordable by allowing individuals over 65 to deduct 75 percent of the cost of their premiums and individuals under 65 to deduct 50 percent of the cost of their premiums.

In addition, I have included several important consumer protections in the bill to ensure that people are purchasing responsible insurance plans that will adequately meet their long-term care needs.

The bill requires plans to include:

Mandatory Inflation Protection.

A Lifetime Deductible Requirement that ensures policy holders must only pay their deductible one time in their lifetime.

Mandatory Interchangeability so that individuals can determine where their benefits are spent.

A Care Coordination program that ensures seniors receive assistance in planning and securing the services they need.

By encouraging people to plan ahead for the future and purchase Long-Term Care Insurance, we can ensure that seniors live dignified and independent lives. I urge all of my colleagues in Congress to work with me to pass it quickly into law.

RECOGNIZING WATER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize May as Water Awareness Month throughout California and the United States of America.

As our most precious natural resource, water sustains all life in our planet. From humans and animals to plants and trees, every living organism needs water to live. For this reason, it is important for all Americans to protect and conserve our water from contamination and careless waste.

This year marks the 29th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act, which authorizes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to regulate public health by setting high health standards and regulating the nation's public drinking water supply. I salute all government leaders, public water providers such as the Walnut Valley Water District, and the California Water Awareness Campaign for their hard work and tireless leadership in making safe drinking water a priority and Water Awareness Month a reality.

In addition, I salute our responsible citizens, urban and agricultural water agencies, and farm bureaus in California who have made exceptional strides to improve water quality and conservation since the state's drought years of 1987–1993. Their significant work and leadership have educated communities throughout California and have set an example to other states to care for the quality of their drinkable and non-drinkable water.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Water Awareness Month and the people who work hard to make water safe for our daily consumption.

THE JEWISH STATE AND A PALESTINIAN STATE: MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE OR INCLUSIVE?

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the State of Israel has for decades been an unwavering friend and ally of the United States. And Israel has stood in complete solidarity with the United States in the War on Terror. So, it is critically important that we send the message to our Israeli friends that we stand in complete solidarity with them in their fight against terrorism, because you cannot negotiate with terror or trust the promises of terrorists; you can only defeat them. And the establishment of a new terror-supporting regime on the shores of the Mediterranean seems inconsistent with the strategic goal of the U.S. and Israel to defeat terrorism and stabilize the Middle East.

I recently was presented a copy of an interesting advertisement that is running in Israeli newspapers regarding the dangers of ceding Israeli territory to terrorists. This particular ad is the ninth in a series, and it focuses on the Security Significance of Judea & Samaria Mountain Ridges. I would like to have the text of this advertisement placed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD following my statement.

THE JEWISH STATE AND A PALESTINIAN STATE: MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE OR INCLUSIVE?

THE SECURITY SIGNIFICANCE OF JUDEA AND SAMARIA MOUNTAIN RIDGES

The Demise of Saddam Has Not Waived the Threat to Israel

The Mideast is the world's most violent and unpredictable region, which requires preparedness for the worst-case scenario, including an Eastern Front Assault on Israel.

In 1967 Israel crushed Egypt, Syria and Jordan, and grew over-confident that no Arab attack would be forthcoming. The 1973 War almost annihilated Israel.

Will the U.S. be able to stabilize Iraq? Will Bush retreat from Iraq? Will his successor (in 2005 or 2009) retreat from Iraq? A U.S. evacuation of Iraq could produce more terror than it intended to quell.

Judea and Samaria Mountain Ridges—Irreplaceable for Israel's Security

Missiles cause damage; they don't bring enemies to submission. There is a marked difference between a barrage of missiles on Tel Aviv, and the invasion of Arab tanks to Tel Aviv.

The centrality of ground forces suggests the centrality of ground features (Topographic edge and geographic depth).

The eastern mountain ridge of Judea & Samaria—rather than the Jordan Valley—constitutes the best tank obstacle in the world (3,000 foot steep slopes, controllable by a small force).

The western mountain ridge of Judea & Samaria (2,000 foot moderate slope overtowering Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa) constitutes an invader's dream platform. A withdrawal from Judea & Samaria would submit the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv-Haifa area (80 percent of the Israeli population) to daily terror.

The Judea & Samaria mountain ridges constitute the ''Golan Heights'' of Israeli's Soft Belly.

Until 1967, Israel limited Jordan's military presence in Judea & Samaria to 5,000, lest it become a lethal threat. The 40,000 armed Palestinian terrorists in Judea & Samaria amount to 4 brigades. A withdrawal from Judea & Samaria would make a 1973–style surprise Arab attack a lethal threat.

Technology Cannot Replace Ground Features

High-tech today becomes low-tech tomorrow, but high-ground today remains high-ground tomorrow.

Every high-tech system is eventually outflanked by an emerging system. The dominant mountain ridges of Judea & Samaria can never be outflanked by an emerging ground feature.

No nation alters its borders per technological developments.

HELP SENIORS RECOGNIZE THE BENEFITS OF THE DRUG DISCOUNT CARD

HON. MIKE FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, today we are here to discuss the immediate savings that our nation's seniors realize due to the prescription drug discount cards provided by the Medicare Law that Congress wrote last year. After years of promises, this law fulfills our commitment to our nation's seniors by providing the first ever universal prescription drug benefit under Medicare.

One would think that these new benefits for seniors, coupled with the prescription drug discount card would be a cause for celebration. Rather than educate seniors on the benefits of the discount cards, the other side of aisle has continued to play politics with this issue and resorted to scare tactic towards our nation's seniors and in some cases suggest that seniors are too dumb to make decisions for themselves. There are even those who are discouraging seniors from signing up for the discount card. Perhaps because if seniors sign up, the program will be a success; that is not just wrong, it is unconscionable and shameful, and anyone who engages in that sort of behavior should be ashamed of themselves.

In my home state of New Jersey we have a very generous state pharmaceutical assistance program called PAAD. After working with our Governor and CMS, New Jersey has the opportunity to directly enroll seniors into the discount card program. Out of the 81,000 seniors and persons with disabilities who were eligible for the transition assistance provided by the discount card, only 350 opted out of the program. As a result of the discount card and our delegation's work to get this card to New Jersey's seniors, my state will save $90 million on the cost of prescription drugs. These savings can be put back into the PAAD program to provide expanded coverage for additional seniors. New Jersey is one example that I encourage more states to follow. By putting partisan politics aside, our delegation worked with CMS to provide a simple process which benefits our state and our state's seniors.

Defying logic, today and in the future, you will hear members on the other side of the aisle argue that the cost of prescription drugs will increase as a result of the discount card. For those members I would like to point to a May 14th study by CMS which shows that in the past week more cards have offered increase discounts for our nation's seniors compared to prices offered the previous week. Sponsors are now comparing their discounts to their competitors, more cards are offering favorable prices, and CMS is working with card sponsors to make sure that the best discounts are published for Medicare beneficiaries. This is what happens when competition is injected into the marketplace. That's how markets work. Some on the other side of the aisle would prefer a government run, command and control system where bureaucrats or politicians tell people what medicines they can have, how much they can have and when and where they can have it. That sounds more like the former Soviet Union to me.

Today you will also hear members who will criticize the pharmaceutical industry for charging too much for prescription drugs. Yet they will not mention the miracle drugs or treatments these companies create. Representing the scientists and researchers who live in my district of New Jersey, I would like to highlight the good work that two of the pharmaceutical companies are doing to help seniors. Once a low-income beneficiary has exhausted his or her annual $600 transitional assistance allowance, Merck and Johnson and Johnson will provide its medicines free to that beneficiary's participating discount card plan or directly to the beneficiary, through the pharmacy. Neither company will receive any fees from these programs.

In closing, I encourage all members to put aside partisan politics and help seniors recognize the benefits of the drug discount card. This can be accomplished by working with CMS to clarify any questions our seniors may have and allowing seniors to realize the discounts that are available to all seniors through the discount card.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this is National Small Business Week; a time to celebrate and recognize America's small business entrepreneurs.

I honor our nation's 23 million small businesses and recognize their vital contribution to our nation. I want to especially thank my good friend, Congresswoman NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ from New York and applaud my House colleagues for their hard work on behalf of small business. Additionally, I thank the many small business owners for their numerous contributions.

Small business is the backbone of our state and national economy. Unfortunately, many small businesses are suffering in these trying financial times. Government contracts and spending are a vital source of revenue, and have become even more so during this current economic slump. Small businesses lack high powered lobbyists, therefore it is imperative that all levels of government continue to pay diligent attention to small business in their purchasing and contracts. It is important that we ensure that businesses of all sizes have access to government contracts regardless of their ability to buy influence.

As Congress continues its work, I will dedicate myself to assuring that good news is on the way for small businesses. Both our federal and state government have an obligation to aid, assist and protect the interests of small businesses. The future of America depends on it. I will continue to strongly support federal programs that benefit small businesses.

OSTEOPOROSIS PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, May is Osteoporosis Prevention and Awareness Month. Osteoporosis and low bone density affects over 44 million Americans over the age of 50, many of whom were unaware of their risk for osteoporosis and were not able to take steps to prevent it. While both men and women are at-risk of developing osteoporosis, women comprise 80 percent of those who develop the disease. Even though the risk of a hip fracture for a woman is equal to her combined risk of breast, uterine, and ovarian cancer, most adult women are unaware of the risk factors for osteoporosis.

Like many Americans, I had no idea I was at risk for developing osteoporosis. I believed I simply had bad posture and was reluctant to be screened for osteoporosis. Yet, as I was running for Congress in 1998, I was diagnosed with this disease.

Fortunately, within 10 months of treatment I was able to stop my bone density loss and my bones actually began to strengthen again. Because of my personal experience with osteoporosis, I am committed to ensuring Americans are aware of the importance of strong bones, so they can reduce their chances of developing the disease.

I commend the National Osteoporosis Foundation (NOF) for their efforts to educate the public during the month of May. This month, the NOF has reached out to healthcare providers and consumers with the message, ''Osteoporosis. Chances are . . . it could be you.'' Throughout the year, the NOF is dedicated to promoting lifelong bone health in order to reduce the prevalence of osteoporosis and osteoporosis related fractures and they continue to work to find a cure for the disease through research, education, and advocacy. For all those who have this disease and those who may in the future, I will continue to work with and support NOF's efforts to raise awareness of the risk factors and ways to prevent osteoporosis.

HONORING THE CREW OF THE USS ''PITTSBURGH'' FOR THEIR HEROISM IN WORLD WAR II

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to announce the introduction of a concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring the crew of the USS *Pittsburgh* for their heroism in World War II.

On March 19, 1945, the USS *Franklin,* as part of Task Force 58, launched an attack against Japan. The Japanese responded with an air attack against Task Force 58, striking the USS *Franklin,* killing 724 crew members and injuring 265 other crew members, and setting the USS *Franklin* ablaze.

The USS *Pittsburgh* was dispatched to assist the USS *Franklin*. The crew of the USS

Pittsburgh performed outstanding feats of seamanship, including attaching a tow line to the flaming USS *Fry* and rescuing 34 of its crew members from turbulent waters. The USS *Pittsburgh* and the USS *Santa Fe* defended against two additional Japanese air attacks while towing and escorting the USS *Franklin* to safety.

As a result of their heroic actions in saving their ship, the crew of the USS *Franklin* was highly decorated, receiving awards of two Congressional Medals of Honor, five Gold Stars, 22 Silver Stars, and 250 Letters of Commendation, and becoming the most decorated crew in the history of the Navy. The crew of the USS *Santa Fe* received a Navy Unit Commendation.

However, the crew of the USS *Pittsburgh* has never been collectively honored or recognized for their heroism and bravery. Therefore, my legislation resolves that Congress recognizes and honors the crew of the USS *Pittsburgh* for their heroism on March 19, 1945, for rendering aid and assistance to the USS *Franklin* and its crew.

As we prepare to dedicate the new World War II Memorial, it is fitting that we recognize and honor the crew of the USS *Pittsburgh.* I am pleased to introduce this long overdue concurrent resolution.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND REFORM ACT

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to introduce The No Child Left Behind Reform Act, which will make three basic changes to the No Child Left Behind Act. This bill was originally authored by my distinguished colleague from Connecticut, Senator CHRIS DODD was recently introduced in the Senate. The legislation I rise to introduce today is a House companion to this bill.

No Child Left Behind was passed in 2002 with bipartisan majorities in the House and Senate in an acknowledgement that the achievement gap among our nation's children must be closed. Since its passage, I have made very deliberate efforts to communicate with educators who will be responsible for implementation of the law. Like most of them, I remain committed to the goals and the general strategy of the policy.

Toward this effort, I have established an Education Roundtable with whom I have met numerous times to discuss this reform. Through this Roundtable, I have met with more than 100 educators over the course of the last two years and have discovered that there are several common concerns. As a result, I am introducing this legislation in an effort to make the No Child Left Behind Act and even stronger educational tool. The legislation will meet the challenges brought to my attention by educators, administrators and parents who deal with these issues every day at the local level.

First, the No Child Left Behind Reform Act will allow schools to consider measures other than test scores when determining achievement. Currently, the law holds schools accountable for student achievement measured solely by scores on two tests administered on one day. It gives schools no credit for progress on other academic indicators, such as dropout rates, the number of students who participate in advanced placement courses, and measures of individual student improvement over time. This legislation will allow schools to be recognized for succeeding in these areas.

Second, the No Child Left Behind Reform Act will allow schools to target school choice and supplemental services to those students whose group fails to make AYP. Under implementation of the current law, if a school is in need of improvement it is expected to offer school choice and supplemental services to all students. This does not allow a school to target its resources to those who are most in need. By targeting those students in groups that fail to meet AYP, this legislation presents the most efficient way to maximize the effect of these resources.

Finally, the No Child Left Behind Reform Act provides flexibility to teachers looking to meet ''highly qualified'' standards. As it is, the law requires teachers to be ''highly qualified'' to teach every subject that they teach. This is certainly a necessary component to the law but some of the educators with whom I have met have expressed concerns. The problems arise for those teachers in the fields of math and science who are now required to become certified in various disciplines such as biology, earth science and chemistry. It also applies to teachers in rural middle schools who teach multiple subjects and are struggling to become certified in all of those subjects.

The legislation I am introducing today will allow middle grade level teachers who teach multiple subjects as well as math and science teachers to take one assessment test for all of the subjects they teach. Each state will determine what the test will consist of based on the needs of their state.

Mr. Speaker, these changes will provide significant assistance to schools in Connecticut and other states across the country currently struggling to comply with the No Child Left Behind Act. Clearly, we have encountered some unintended consequences of No Child Left Behind. If we are not able to restructure the law to address these issues we run the risk of losing the worthwhile goals that motivated the passage of this important legislation. I ask my colleagues to join me in support of the No Child Left Behind Reform Act.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD A. HELLBUSCH

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ronald A. Hellbusch, Director of Public Works and Utilities for the City of Westminster, Colorado. Ron is retiring after 32 years with the City. Combined with the 16 years as the City Manager of Brighton, Colorado, Ron has provided 48 years of dedicated service to these northern Denver communities.

Ron began his career at the City of Westminster as a seasonal laborer in the street, water, sewer and park divisions while finishing high school and college. In 1960, he was appointed as the assistant city manager for the City of Westminster and was instrumental in developing the city's surface water supply system from its previous groundwater system when he was appointed water development coordinator by the City Council in 1963. Hellbusch left the City of Westminster in 1966 to serve as city manager for the City of Brighton, Colorado, where he served for 16 years.

He resumed his career with the City of Westminster in 1984 as the Director of Public Works and Utilities, directing the water distribution and wastewater collection systems, water and wastewater treatment, water supply acquisition, long range water supply planning and development, street operations and maintenance, street replacement and rehabilitation, and concrete replacement. The Department of Public Works and Utilities has 128 authorized employees, has an annual operating budget of more than $24 million, and a capital improvement project budget of approximately $7 million annually.

In 1996, Ron was selected as one of the American Public Works Association's 1996 Top Ten Public Works Leaders for his outstanding contributions to the public works profession. Ron also received the William E. Korbitz Award presented by the Colorado Chapter of the American Public Works Association at the 14th Annual Awards Luncheon in January 2000. He represented the city on various city and community groups including the Woman Creek Reservoir Authority Board, American Public Works Association Colorado Chapter and National Committees including the Leadership and Management Technical Committee, State Water Supply Initiative (SWSI) Roundtable Board Member, and the Colorado Water Congress serving as its president in 2003.

In the community, Ron has served the Westminster Presbyterian Church as a ruling elder and as the chairman of the Church's corporate affairs committee. Also, Ron chaired the stewardship committee over a four-year period and was a Sunday school teacher. In addition to the Westminster church activities, Ron was active during his years in Brighton, Colorado, both in the Presbyterian Church and community.

Ron's accomplishments with his Public Works and Utilities team include acquiring and developing a long-term, build-out water supply; the reclaimed water program; the completion of the Standley Lake dam renovation in collaboration with the cities of Northglenn and Thornton; employee driven quality service/competitive service program; the long-term street improvement strategy plan; utility planning and funding; developing a highly motivated and skilled employee team; encouraging innovation in membrane water treatment; use of technology in utility planning; a department-wide maintenance management program; numerous intergovernmental and regional cooperative agreements on water and public works programs; outsourcing programs such as street sweeping an annual trash pickup; and employee success in numerous national awards for programs and facilities, including recognition by the American Public Works Association, American Water Works Association, Water Environment Federation and the Denver Regional Council of Governments.

Ron has also been involved in the cleanup and closure of the former Rocky Flats nuclear

weapons facility just west of Westminster. For the past couple of years he has represented the City on a number of issues associated with the cleanup of this site, protecting surrounding drinking water supplies, ensuring worker safety, and with the site's future use. He was an early and strong supporter of preserving the acres of open space and ,vildlife habitat that exist on this site. He was instrumental in helping win the support of the neighboring communities for the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act so that this site could become an asset not only to the citizens of Westminster, but all of the surrounding communities.

Ron is an example of the important role that our local officials play in maintaining and enhancing the quality of life for our Nation's citizens. His dedication to his community and collaboration with neighboring communities stands as a shining example of the rewards that come from such service—not only to the community leader, but the lives touched by that service.

As Westminster City Manager Brent McFall stated, ''Ron Hellbusch has had a distinguished career with the City of Westminster and in the field of public works and utilities. He is nationally recognized as a leader in public works and as a water and wastewater provider. His shoes will be very hard to fill. We appreciate Ron's efforts over all these years on behalf of Westminster. He will be missed.''

I join Manager McFall in those comments. In Ron's retirement letter to City Manager Brent McFall, he indicates that ''there are streams and lakes not fished, outdoors to explore, stories to write, vistas to photograph, music to enjoy, books not read and tennis games to play. . . it is time to retire.'' That may be true and I am envious of the opportunity he now has to enjoy those activities. But we cannot forget that Ron helped enhance the lives of people who live, work and raise a family right there in Westminster and Brighton.

I wish Ron well in his retirement and know that he will stay engaged in community affairs no matter where his retirement may take him.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BRYAN SCOTLAND, RECORD-BREAKING CHAMPION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in offering congratulations to an outstanding young man from St. Benedict's Preparatory School in Newark, New Jersey, Bryan Scotland, who set a track meet record in the 1600 meter run on May 14th. During the first day of the Essex County Track and Field Championships at Woodman Field in Montclair, New Jersey, Bryan made a spectacular finish in 4:17:88. On the following day, he also won the 800 meter run.

Not only is Bryan an accomplished athlete, he is an excellent student and a young man of the highest character. He is a credit to his school, St. Benedict's Prep, which has an outstanding academic reputation under the leadership of the Headmaster, Edwin Leahy, fondly known by all as ''Father Ed.'' Opened by Benedictine monks in 1857, the school closed for a period of time in 1972 after demographic shifts in Newark, but thankfully reopened its doors a year later and remains strongly committed to the education of our local youth.

I am proud that I chose Bryan to come to the U.S. House of Representatives to serve as a page during the summer of 2003. He distinguished himself in that position through his diligence and his dedicated service to this institution.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring this talented and hardworking young man with such a bright future ahead of him. Let us offer our congratulations and best wishes to Bryan and his proud parents, Diane and Glen Scotland of Glen Ridge, New Jersey.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF RON BEATON

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ron Beaton of Paducah, Kentucky on the occasion of his retirement from WPSD–TV after 29 years of distinguished work and community leadership.

Ron has been a public face and trusted figure in Paducah and the surrounding area since he began working at the television station in 1975. He started out as an intern with WPSD immediately after graduating from Lone Oak High School and has been an on-air fixture ever since. After working on weekends and during the summers while attending Murray State University, Ron has served as a reporter, producer, anchorman, and managing editor.

As his colleagues and viewers readily attest, Ron has handled all types of news stories with professionalism and sensitivity. His coverage of political events, including ten Presidential and Vice-Presidential visits to the region, has garnered well-deserved accolades. In addition, Ron's dignified and caring manner has served the community well during trying times, such as the tragic shootings at Heath High School in 1999 and the deadly tornadoes that ravaged Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri last spring.

Spending one's entire career at a single station, as Ron has done, is increasingly rare in the competitive television news business. Despite opportunities to move to larger and more lucrative markets, Ron decided to keep his career and family in the town he knows and loves. WPSD's viewers in western Kentucky, southern Illinois, southeastern Missouri, and northwest Tennessee have been fortunate to have welcomed Ron into their living rooms for so long.

My constituents have further benefitted from Beaton's service in ways that reach well beyond the television studio. Ron and his colleagues at WPSD have worked with the Lion's Club Telethon of Stars and the Easter Seals for decades to raise millions of dollars for children with disabilities. His work with the popular ''Fugitive Files'' news segment has led to over 200 suspects apprehended and at least as many communities made safer. Ron has been an active spiritual leader and teacher in his home church of Trinity United Methodist in Paducah and many other congregations. The financial counseling he has provided, both on the air and through the Money Matters financial planning business he will now attend to full-time, has helped many families reach goals they never thought attainable.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Ron for the positive example he has been for us as an anchorman, businessman, community leader, husband, and father. Tonight, when he signs off with his trademark ''Tomorrow's Friday!'' for the second-to-last time, he will remind us all that despite the dour outlook that prevails in much of the news media today, there is still much to be happy about in Paducah and places like it all across America. It is with great pride that I represent Ron in Congress and enjoy having his son, Benjamin, on my staff here in Washington. I am honored to bring his accomplishments to the attention of this House.

OSCODA WWII VETERANS' RECOGNITION DAY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, as our nation prepares for the dedication of the National World War II Memorial next weekend, I rise to join my constituents in paying solemn tribute to the nearly 200 World War II veterans of Oscoda County, Michigan. Each and every one of these veterans deserves our continued gratitude for their service, for their sacrifice, and for their leadership.

On May 29th, the residents of Oscoda County will celebrate these members of the greatest generation with a parade, ceremony, and luncheon marking Oscoda World War II Veterans Recognition Day. This day has an added significance: together they will also be watching the dedication ceremony in Washington, DC for the National World War II Memorial. I am fortunate that I will have the honor of participating in this event, and will have the chance to thank these veterans in person for the sacrifice they made for our freedom 60 years ago.

I am especially pleased that this event is focused on those veterans that are still with us. On Memorial Day, our nation rightly honors those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the cause of preserving liberty. But we too often forget to thank those who came home to careers and family and civic leadership. By the grace of God they returned home, but this does not diminish their service and sacrifice. Indeed, their leadership and example since have put us further in their debt.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know, the World War II generation, and especially those who fought so bravely in Europe and the Pacific for the freedom we enjoy today, are deserving of our highest honor and deepest gratitude. We must never forget their sacrifice and their courage. I therefore ask that the House join me in paying tribute to that greatest generation, and especially to those who will be at the Oscoda World War II Veterans Recognition events.

HONORING LYNDA MINTER OF NUCOR STEEL-TEXAS

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, the success of American companies is usually measured by market share, the strength of the balance sheet and the quality of goods and services that they produce. But many times, we can also look to the quality of a company's employees to find the true secret to their success.

Nucor Steel-Texas, which is located in Jewett, Texas, in the Fifth Congressional District, is a major economic driver in Leon County and the state of Texas. For almost 24 years, Lynda Minter has served Nucor Steel-Texas and will soon retire as Controller. Lynda's colleagues have told me that Nucor Steel-Texas' success is inseparable from her legacy of careful financial management and her superb relations with employees, Nucor leadership and with state and local community leaders.

Lynda has been characterized by her coworkers as a pillar of the mill's success, and those who know her best have testified that her kind manner, deep understanding of Nucor's business and fair dealing have been instrumental in Nucor Steel-Texas' continued growth and achievement. Her colleagues tell me that Lynda has offered Nucor Steel-Texas a steady hand, a keen intellect and a long-term devotion to service for over two decades.

I want to take this opportunity to recognize the contributions of Lynda Minter, and I want to wish Lynda all the best as she embarks on this new phase of her life.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Small Business Administration, its employees all over the nation and its resource partners during ''National Small Business Week.''

Mr. Speaker, small businesses play a vital role in our nation's economy. Many people have heard the phrase that small business is ''the engine of our nation's economy,'' and perhaps no truer words have ever been used to describe how important the entrepreneurial spirit and dedication of the approximately 23 million small businesses are to the continued health and welfare of America.

Small businesses represent 99.7 percent of all employers, employ half of all private sector employees, generate 60 to 80 percent of net new jobs annually, and make up 97 percent of all exporting firms.

American small businesses are extremely diverse, and despite the current economic climate, some are thriving. In particular, female participation in business ownership has been climbing in recent years. Women now own around 40 percent of all small businesses and are growing at twice the rate of other small firms. In fact, the 9.1 million women-owned small businesses in this country employ 27.5 million people and add $3.6 trillion to the economy.

About 5.8 percent of small businesses are owned by Hispanic Americans, 4.4 percent by Asian Americans, and 4 percent by African Americans.

As the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Tax, Finance and Exports, I have long been an advocate for a level playing field for small businesses.

I have introduced legislation, HR 2374, which would allow minority small business owners participating in the Small Business Administration's 8(a) minority contracting program into teaming, leader-follow arrangements and joint ventures.

I have also authored legislation, HR 2375, that would change the IRS Code to allow small business owners to offer their employees greater savings opportunities under SIMPLE (Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees) IRAs.

Finally, I have introduced HR 3099, legislation that would give the SBA authority to make loans to nonprofit day-care centers. This bipartisan measure helps not only non-profit small businesses, but gives parents a viable daycare option as they work during the day.

Mr. Speaker, small businesses are indeed the engine that makes our economy run smoothly, and I urge all my colleagues to take a moment this week and reflect on the hard work of our nation's entrepreneurs, the financial and regulatory hurdles they face everyday, and the measures I have proposed to make the full-time job of running a small business easier.

HONORING GUAM'S MANAMKO' DURING SENIOR CITIZENS MONTH

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the senior citizens of Guam who are celebrating a special month dedicated in their honor. I stand to commend and show appreciation for all they have contributed to our island of Guam, its people, and our Nation as a whole. I rise to pay tribute to them for teaching and imparting to our people a sense of patriotism and unwavering loyalty to this great Nation and American Democracy.

Guam's senior citizens lived through the horrific experience of World War II on the only American soil occupied by an enemy force. Through it all, the people of Guam never lost faith in America. Always defiant and proud, their solemn hymn was ''Uncle Sam, won't you please come back to Guam.'' After the war, these proud Americans taught their children a love of democracy and freedom that carried them through battlefields in the Korean War, the Vietnam conflict, the Persian Gulf and now, the global war on terrorism.

With this deep love of freedom and country, Guam's seniors were always the pillars of our island community. Through them the beautiful Chamorro culture is passed on to younger generations. They keep our island traditions, our language, and our ways of life alive and vibrant. They have taught our children the love of nature, the love of God and the love of family and neighbor and in so doing, ensure that our heritage will survive.

Mr. Speaker, I honor the seniors of Guam, proud citizens who have participated in the growth of Guam as a showcase of American democracy in the Pacific. May every American remember and give honor to the forefathers who shaped this wonderful country and who were the architects and builders of a nation founded in the love of freedom and the inalienable rights of humanity. During this month dedicated to seniors, let us all honor these great Americans and say ''thank you.''

CELEBRATING THE CENTENARY OF HADDON HEIGHTS, NEW JERSEY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the centenary of Haddon Heights, New Jersey. My family and I are privileged to live in Haddon Heights, a small town located in southern New Jersey just outside Camden and 7 short miles from downtown Philadelphia. While its proximity to one of the largest and most vibrant metropolitan centers in the country makes Haddon Heights a culturally diverse and enriched community, the town is also a world removed from the bustle of the city, reflecting values and a sense of community characteristic of small towns far removed from our urban centers.

Haddon Heights was first settled in 1699 when John Hinchman built a one-room brick house. However, the borough was developed primarily as farmland, divided between crops and orchards for nearly 200 years. The borough was named Haddon Heights because of its proximity to Haddonfield and its high elevation.

During the late 1890s, the town's first homes, church, rail station, and a general store were constructed, and by 1904, Haddon Heights had become large enough to incorporate as a borough. The town's residents elected Benjamin A. Lippincott as the town's first mayor.

Viewed as a resort town because of a direct rail connection to Philadelphia, its proximity to the lake, and the warmth and friendliness of its small town atmosphere, the population of Haddon Heights swelled during the summer months as vacationers escaped the cities. The rail station served as the hub of the town, and a small downtown began to emerge surrounding the railroad that brought the town's visitors.

Rail passenger service ended in 1965, but Haddon Heights retains to this day a character reflective of its roots as a rail town at the turn of the 20th century. Haddon Heights has a proud, rich heritage, which we continue to embrace and celebrate as we look to our shared future. I feel privileged to be a part of the Haddon Heights community, and I can think of no better place today, to raise a family or to be a child growing up. So in celebration of the past 100 years, and in anticipation of the many great things to come from our town in the next 100 years, please join me in honoring Haddon Heights, New Jersey, on the celebration of its centenary.

IN HONOR OF WOMEN IN THE ARMED FORCES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues today to honor the thousands of courageous women of the United States Armed Forces. In particular, I am pleased to honor the 5 courageous women who were chosen to be honored by the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues at the 7th Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. These 5 women are:

Command Sergeant Major Debra Strickland of the United States Army;

Master Chief Storekeeper Kelly D. Williams of the United States Navy;

Chief Master Sergeant Margaret C. Burgess of the United States Air Force;

Sergeant Major Barbara J. Titus of the United States Marine Corps;

Senior Chief Store Keeper Corzetta "Cozy" Calloway of the United States Coast Guard.

I join my colleagues in commending these women for their bravery and self-sacrifice.

Today, women are making great contributions to our military. There are approximately 212,000 women serving the United States in the Armed Forces, including 33 women generals. For the past 10 years, women have served in combat positions. As women become a larger presence in all areas of the United States military, like their male colleagues, they are risking their lives for our country. As of April 30, 18 United States women soldiers have died in Iraq. This is a higher number of female casualties in any war since World War II. We all owe a great debt to our servicewomen who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Today, as many women in uniform are deployed overseas, it is especially appropriate to honor them and show that their service to our country is greatly appreciated and respected. It is an honor for me to recognize the worthy accomplishments of these particular 5 outstanding military women, those servicewomen who have died in service to our country, and all of the women who currently serve or have served in the United States military.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND JAPAN AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. HIRO KURASHINA

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the beginning of relations between the United States of America and Japan. One hundred and fifty years ago, Commodore Perry opened the doors of a country and started a relationship that would eventually grow into an alliance between two of the largest economies in today's world. A country which had largely isolated itself from the rest of the world, Japan, in a very short span of a century and a half, now has a strong international presence as a strong ally of the United States and advocate for freedom and democracy in the world.

Today, America and Japan enjoy strong trade relations, economies that support each other, and equally as important, social and cultural ties that bridge the Pacific Ocean and span differences in languages and custom. The alliance between Japan and America is strong and stable. We both fiercely defend freedom and democracy and we both promote human rights in the world.

The friendship between America and Japan is magnified and continually strengthened by its peoples and their willingness to work with each other for the common goal of improving the quality of life for all citizens of the world. Both America and Japan freely extend helping hands to each other and to the most needy of the world. Both America and Japan use their combined economic might to cure disease, feed the hungry and explore the unknown in search of greater knowledge and resources.

In these efforts certain citizens of both of our great nations shine and become role models for all of other citizens to emulate. Dr. Hiro Kurashina is such a man. Motivated by the desire to make a better future by learning from the past, Dr. Kurashina, a native of Japan, has devoted many years to the development of the Micronesian Area Research Center, the premier archive and repository of the history of the Pacific Islands and its people. Dr. Kurashina's work has helped to ensure that the story of the islands will always be preserved and promoted among its peoples and shared with the world.

Through these efforts, Dr. Kurashina has created a strong bond between Japan and the islands of Micronesia and through his efforts, the University of Guam has become an active participant in the growth of knowledge about this region and its people. Dr. Kurashina has contributed greatly to making the University of Guam a valuable resource for Guam, Micronesia, and the world at large.

I consider it an honor to take this opportunity to praise Dr. Kurashina for his work and to thank him for all that he has done for our islands and people and all that he has done to continue the strengthening of the bonds between Japan, America and the islands of the Pacific.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, on May 18, 2004, I missed a series of rollcall votes in the House of Representatives because of a family obligation that required my presence in Arizona. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall Vote Nos. 188, 189 and 190. I would have voted "no" on rollcall Vote No. 187.

IN OPPOSITION TO INCREASED FUNDING FOR NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, last week, I joined several distinguished experts in the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) to commend them for the public release of their very timely, and much-needed study on the oversold and misguided National Missile Defense. It is entitled "Technical Realities: An Analysis of the 2004 Deployment of a U.S. Missile Defense System".

Sadly, Congress keeps shoveling ever greater amounts of taxpayer funds into this wasteful, dead-end program that adds nothing to our real national defense. In FY 2003, President Bush requested $7.8 billion, Congress authorized $7.78 billion and appropriated $7.62 billion. In FY 2004, the President requested $9.1 billion, Congress authorized $9.08 billion and appropriated $8.9 billion. Now, in FY 2005, the President has requested $10.2 billion. This bill authorizes that full amount, an increase of $1.1 billion or 13 percent more than the current level. It includes funding for the initial deployment of an untested national missile defense system based in Alaska and California.

To put it bluntly, our country can't afford spending upwards of $10 billion per year for a bogus missile defense program.

First of all, many of our Nation's leading physicists view midcourse defenses as absurd. They have long believed mid-course defenses are easily defeated and won't work for fundamental physics reasons.

Second, the truth is pure politics is driving this deployment. On December 11, 2002, the last intercept test of the missile defense system failed. No tests have taken place since then. Nevertheless, on December 17, 2002, President Bush announced his decision to deploy missile defenses in 2004.

Sometime after the President's announcement, the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) cancelled or postponed every test scheduled since the speech. Nine tests have been cancelled.

Despite these cancellations, the schedule for deployment has actually moved up. President Bush simply announced deployment "in 2004." Pentagon official subsequently set a deadline of September 30, 2004. The MDA has stated "as early as this summer" for initial operations. Bush Administration officials still maintain that this is an "eventdriven" program, where results of tests and simulations determine how the program progresses.

Instead, it seems to be schedule-driven. a return to the "rush to failure" approach that Lt. Gen. Larry Welch warned about during the Clinton Administration.

The current focus of the SDI Program is wrong. As we have witnessed in other national security matters, the Bush Administration appears hell-bent on deploying missile defense, regardless of whether it works. Before taking office, George W. Bush campaigned on the issue of missile defense. As has been highlighted in Richard Clarke's book and elsewhere, before the 9/11 attacks, the foreign and defense policy of the Bush Administration

was focused not on terrorism, but on missile defense.

Post-9/11, while it should be clear that the real threat is terrorism, the missile defense program has only sped up, and funding has steadily increased. Regrettably, this bill is now brought to the House under a restrictive and no amendments pertaining to the SDI have been made in order to allow debate and votes to cut funding for missile defense or calling for realistic, operational testing before deploying more interceptors. Apparently, no dissenting votes will be tolerated and this Congress will do nothing to stop the Bush Administration from declaring some system operational some time this year.

Many SDI supporters argue that any missile defense is better than none. However, the current situation we face maybe worse than nothing. While the currently constituted SDI system will offer no real defense, Bush Administration officials often claim it will be highly effective and will give the President ''more options.'' But it will not work well enough to affect our military posture and will only make potential enemies nervous and lead them to take offensive steps to overcome it. It may push Russia and China to maintain, improve and expand their nuclear arsenals.

When weighing the pros and cons of rushing to judgment on SDI deployment, we would do well to remember the advice and counsel of Richard Feynman, one of our Nation's greatest thinkers and most distinguished scientists: ''For a successful technology, reality must take precedence over public relations, for Nature cannot be fooled.''

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF KELLY SHEA GALLO

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kelly Shea Gallo, the beloved wife, mother and teacher who lost her young life to breast cancer on May 3, 2004. Throughout her illness she was an inspiration to others, remaining strong despite the ordeal she was undergoing. Shortly after being declared cancer free, the disease recurred and she died at a San Francisco hospital, surrounded by her family.

Kelly Shea Gallo was a sixth grade teacher, a basketball, volleyball and softball coach and a swimming teacher. As the San Mateo Times said of her, ''she brought cheer into the lives of those she met. Her infectious smile brightened classrooms and endeared her to the dozens of pupils who had the honor of sharing even a moment of her brief life.'' The Principal of Taylor School, where she taught, remembers her as the culture and spirit of the school, a teacher who had a unique and natural rapport with her students.

Kelly Shea Gallo was born in San Francisco and was raised in South San Francisco and Millbrae. She was a graduate of Mercy High School, California State University, Chico, and earned her teaching credential from San Francisco State University.

Kelly was the loving mother of Mia, age 7, and Chloe, age 3, and the devoted wife of Mark Gallo, whom she met and married in 1995. She leaves behind her loving parents, her brothers and her sister, as well as aunts, uncles and cousins.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest sympathy to Kelly Shea Gallo's family. She was a treasure and a shining light and will be missed by all who knew her. Our community will long remember her as an extraordinary educator and a good and great woman.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6051–S6252

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2473–2480, and S. Con. Res. 112–113. **Page S6087**

Measures Reported: S. 2273, to provide increased rail transportation security, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 108–278) **Page S6087**

Measures Passed:

World War II Memorial: Senate agreed to S. Res. 362, expressing the sense of the Senate on the dedication of the National World War II Memorial on May 29, 2004, in recognition of the duty, sacrifices, and valor of the members of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in World War II.

Pages S6063–64

World War II Memorial: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 409, recognizing with humble gratitude the more than 16,000,000 veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II and the Americans who supported the war effort on the home front and celebrating the completion of the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall in the District of Columbia.

Pages S6063–64

World War II Memorial: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 423, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for activities associated with the dedication of the National World War II Memorial.

Pages S6064–65

Department of Defense Authorization Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 2400, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Services, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S6052–63, S6065–67

Adopted:

Warner/Levin Amendment No. 3240, to strike an amendment to the InternalRevenue Code of 1986.

Page S6055

Warner (for Graham (SC)) Amendment No. 3227, to except from criminal offense the receipt of pay from an employer by a Reservist on active duty in connection with a contingency operation. **Page S6055**

Levin (for Landrieu/Warner) Amendment No. 3171, to authorize representatives of veterans service organizations to appear at pre-separation counseling provided by the Department of Defense. **Page S6055**

Warner (for Graham (SC)) Modified Amendment No. 3228, to increase by $3,000,000 the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 201(2) for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Navy and make the increase available for infrastructure system security engineering development, and to provide an offset. **Pages S6055–6056**

Levin (for Nelson (NE)) Amendment No. 3241, to increase by $2,000,000 the amount authorized to be appropriated for research, development, test, and evaluation, Defense-wide activities, and make the increase available for neurotoxin mitigation research, and to provide an offset. **Page S6056**

Warner (for Grassley) Amendment No. 3242, to provide for the consolidation and improvement of authorities for army working-capital funded facilities to engage in public-private partnerships.

Pages S6056–57

Levin (for Feinstein) Amendment No. 3243, to provide for the conveyance of land at March Air Force Base, California. **Page S6057**

Warner (for Santorum) Modified Amendment No. 3166, to require a report on the maturity and effectiveness of the Global Information Grid-Bandwidth Expansion (GIG–BE) network. **Pages S6057–58**

Pending:

Graham (SC) Amendment No. 3170, to provide for the treatment by the Department of Energy of waste material. **Page S6052**

Crapo Amendment No. 3226 (to Amendment No. 3170), of a perfecting nature. **Page S6052**

Class Action Fairness Act: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S.

2062, to amend the procedures that apply to consideration of interstate class actions to assure fairer outcomes for class members and defendants.

Pages S6249–50

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of May 21, 2004, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, June 1, 2004. Page S6250

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at 2:15 p.m., on Tuesday, June 1, 2004. Page S6249

Authority for Committees—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate, all committees were authorized to file legislative and executive reports during the adjournment of the Senate on Wednesday, May 26, 2004, from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. Page S6251

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that during this adjournment of the Senate, the Majority Leader or the Assistant Majority Leader, be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions. Page S6251

Appointment Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the Majority and Democratic Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate. Page S6251

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Francis Mulvey, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2007.

W. Douglas Buttrey, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2008.

Linda Morrison Combs, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation.

Miles T. Bivins, of Texas, to be Ambassador to Sweden.

John J. Danilovich, of California, to be Ambassador to theFederative Republic of Brazil.

Deborah Hersman, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2008.

Earle I. Mack, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Finland.

Jack Dyer Crouch II, of Missouri, to be Ambassador to Romania.

Jendayi Elizabeth Frazer, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa.

Mitchell B. Reiss, of Virginia, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Special Envoy for NorthernIreland.

Thomas Hill Moore, of Florida, to be a Commissioner of theConsumer Product Safety Commission for a term of seven years from October 27, 2003. (Reappointment)

Victor Henderson Ashe, of Tennessee, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Poland. Page S6252

Messages From the House: Pages S6086–87

Measures Placed on Calendar: Page S6087

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S6087–88

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S6088–S6108

Additional Statements: Pages S6082–86

Amendments Submitted: Pages S6108–12

Privilege of the Floor: Page S6112

Text of H.R. 3550, as Previously Passed: Page S6112–S6248

Adjournment: Senate met at 9:30 a.m., and, in accordance with the provisions of H. Con. Res. 432, adjourned at 2:39 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Tuesday, June 1, 2004. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S6251–52.)

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. Pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 432, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate, it stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, June 1, 2004.

Committee Meetings

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Committee on Armed Services: Held a hearing on the conduct and support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: GEN Richard B. Myers, USAF, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; GEN Peter J. Schoonmaker, USA, Chief of Staff, Army; and GEN Michael W. Hagee, USMC, Commandant of the Marine Corps.

DC'S LEAD CONTAMINATION EXPERIENCE—LESSONS LEARNED

Committee on Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled "Thirsty for Results: Lessons Learned from the District of Columbia's Lead Contamination Experience." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the EPA: Benjamin Grumbles, Acting Administrator, Water; and Donald Welsh, Administrator, Region III; Thomas P. Jacobus, General Manager, Washington Aqueduct, Baltimore District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Jerry N. Johnson, General Manager, Water and Sewer Authority, District of Columbia; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY AND RESTORATION EFFORTS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment concluded oversight hearings on Great Lakes Water Quality and Restoration Efforts. Testimony was heard from Representatives Kirk and Emanuel; and public witnesses.

Next Meeting of the **SENATE**

10 a.m., Tuesday, June 1

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will be in a period of morning business (not to extend beyond 12:30 p.m.) At 2:15 p.m., Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 2062, Class Action Fairness Act, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, to occur at approximately 5:30 p.m.

(Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for the Republican party conference.)

Next Meeting of the **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

2 p.m., Tuesday, June 1

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

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