

## AMENDMENT NO. 274

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 274 proposed to House Joint Resolution 1, a joint resolution proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

## NOTICES OF HEARINGS

## COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the full Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place Monday, March 6, 1995, at 2 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony regarding S. 333, the Department of Energy Risk Management Act of 1995.

Those wishing to testify or who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. For further information, please call Maureen Koetz at (202) 224-0765.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

## COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Thursday, February 23, 1995 at 9:30 a.m. in open session to receive testimony from the unified commanders on their military strategies, operational requirements, and the defense authorization request for fiscal year 1996, including the future years defense program.

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

## COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Thursday, February 23, 1995 at 10 a.m. for a hearing on S. 4 and S. 14, line-item veto.

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

## COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Thursday, February 23, at 10 a.m. for a markup on S. 219, Regulatory Transition Act of 1995, and S. 4 and S. 14, line-item veto.

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

## COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to hold a business meeting during the session of the Senate on Thursday,

February 23, 1995, on the nominations of:

Sandra L. Lynch, of Massachusetts, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the First Circuit;

Lacy H. Thornburg, of North Carolina, to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina;

Sidney H. Stein, of New York, to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of New York;

Thadd Heartfield, of Texas, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas; and

David Folsom, of Texas, to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

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

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Education, Arts and Humanities of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a hearing on reauthorization of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, during the session of the Senate on Thursday, February 23, 1995, at 9:30 a.m.

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

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure be granted permission to meet Thursday, February 23, 1995, at 2 p.m. to conduct a hearing on the legislation to approve the National Highway System and the Department of Transportation's fiscal year 1996 budget request for the Federal-aid highway program.

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

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

## LONG-TERM CARE FAMILY PROTECTION ACT OF 1995

• Mr. COHEN. Mr. President, last week I introduced legislation aimed at improving access to affordable long-term care services. This bill allows families with exorbitant health care bills to deduct long-term care costs as medical expenses, creates incentives for older Americans and their families to plan for future long-term care expenses, and removes tax barriers that stifle the private long-term care insurance market.

Henry David Thoreau once wrote that "If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them."

Each day Americans, quite unknowingly, heed Thoreau's advice as they work to safeguard their families, their homes, and their dreams from the precarious circumstances life may hand them from time to time. As he suggests, we work not only to build our

castles, but strive to protect them once they are built.

Unfortunately, most of us have not adequately protected ourselves and our families from one of the most devastating financial risks that could face us in our entire lifetime—the need for long-term care services.

While approximately 38 million people lack basic health insurance, almost every American family is exposed to the catastrophic costs of long-term care. In fact, less than 3 percent of all Americans have insurance to cover long-term care. With average nursing home costs nearing \$40,000 per year and home health care costing from \$50 to \$200 per day, long-term care expenses can quickly wipe out the lifetime savings of a disabled individual and his or her family.

Sadly, many families erroneously assume that their current insurance or Medicare will cover long-term care expenses. It is only when a loved-one becomes disabled that they discover coverage is limited to acute medical care and that long nursing home stays and extended home care services must be paid for out-of-pocket. In fact, a 1994 public opinion poll conducted for the Employee Benefit Research Institute found that 45 percent of all respondents believe that Medicare pays for long-term care, when in fact it does not.

And despite what many of us believe, the chance of needing long-term care is significant and increasing as life expectancies increase. In 1990 for example, people age 65 or older faced a 43-percent risk of entering a nursing home. About 1 in 5 of those seniors are estimated to be in a nursing home stay over 1 year, about 1 in 10 would be in a facility for 5 years or longer and many more would receive caregiving from friends, families, and home care workers.

As chairman of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, I know the obstacles many disabled older Americans and their families face paying for necessary long-term care. Despite heroic caregiving efforts by spouses, children, and friends, many disabled Americans do not receive the appropriate medical and social services they desperately need. Families are literally torn apart or pushed to the brink of financial disaster due to the overwhelming costs of long-term care.

This lack of protection pulls the rug out from under hard working families at a time when they are in their greatest need. Growing frail or learning to function with severe disabilities is a formidable task in itself. Yet this is only half the battle for an uninsured older American—since at the same time they must face huge financial burdens posed by long-term care.

The legislation levels the playing field between acute and long-term care services, and provides all Americans with incentives to purchase protection against the risk of catastrophic long-term care expenses. As healthy and as independent as we may want to stay,