

not have to rely upon "good intentions." Why take the risk? Let's write it into the amendment.

MORNING BUSINESS

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session to Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-33. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire; to the Committee on Armed Services.

"SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1

"Whereas, the Department of the Navy has maintained the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard since June 12, 1800; and

"Whereas, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has performed in an exemplary manner throughout its almost 2 centuries of history; and

"Whereas, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is one of the most modern facilities available in the United States for the repair, overhauling, and refueling of naval vessels; and

"Whereas, the communities located near the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, in Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts offer an abundance of highly trained, skilled and experienced workers who have an outstanding work ethic; and

"Whereas, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is uniquely and strategically located for the continued defense of our country; and

"Whereas, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is known for its leadership in the environmental field and has worked hard to be a partner with the surrounding communities; and

"Whereas, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has an aggressive pollution prevention program which determines how to eliminate pollution at its source by preventing hazardous waste from entering the waste system; and

"Whereas, the previous closure of Pease Air Force Base has had an extremely negative economic impact on the seacoast region with recovery from that loss taking much longer than anticipated; and

"Whereas, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard contributes approximately \$594,700,000 in personal income and this loss would contribute to the further contraction of the economic base of the region; and

"Whereas, the closure of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard would have a devastating impact on an area much larger than the seacoast with that impact being much greater than that caused by the closure of Pease Air Force Base; and

"Whereas, the state of New Hampshire is firmly committed to actively supporting the continuation of the United States Naval Shipyard at Portsmouth; now, therefore, be it

"Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives in General Court convened:

"That the general court of New Hampshire respectfully recommends and urges the Congress of the United States to continue to operate, develop, diversify, and make fullest use of the United States Naval Shipyard at Portsmouth, New Hampshire;

"That the general court further urges the Congress of the United States to take all necessary action to ensure that the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard remains an integral component in a post-cold war defense strategy; and

"That copies of this resolution signed by the governor, the president of the senate and the speaker of the house be forwarded by the senate clerk to the President of the United States, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, President of the United States Senate, the Secretary of Defense, and to each member of the New Hampshire and Maine Congressional delegations."

POM-34. A resolution adopted by the Municipal Assembly of Morovis, Puerto Rico relative to Presidential elections; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. WELLSTONE:

S. 473. A bill to establish as the nuclear energy policy of the United States that no new civilian nuclear power reactors shall be built until adequate waste emplacement capacity is available, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MACK (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 474. A bill to provide a veterans bill of rights; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. D'AMATO, and Mr. SIMON):

S. Res. 79. A resolution designating March 25, 1995, as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day Celebration of Greek and American Democracy"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. REID):

S. Res. 80. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the impact on the housing industry of interest rate increases by the Federal Open Market Committee of the Federal Reserve System; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. WELLSTONE:

S. 473. A bill to establish as the nuclear energy policy of the United States that no new civilian nuclear power reactors shall be built until adequate waste emplacement capacity is available, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

THE NUCLEAR ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 1995

• Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, today I address a subject that has received too little attention here. I'm talking about nuclear waste. Since the Senate's last major action on this issue, 8 years have passed, extremely little progress has been made, and more questions have been raised than resolved. I propose an approach designed to keep us from ending up embroiled in another nuclear waste crisis, and to that end today I introduce the Nuclear Energy Policy Act of 1995.

The nuclear waste issue is coming to a boil throughout our country. We all know that—and hear every day about—the Department of Energy's difficulties in figuring out what to do with our high-level nuclear wastes.

My own State of Minnesota has been at the forefront of this complex issue. The legislature last year decided to allow some dry-cask storage of high-level nuclear waste on the site of the Prairie Island nuclear plant. During the debate, people were confused by the advertisements and varying claims the different sides made about the permanency and safety of such a waste dump, and about alternatives to nuclear power electricity generation. And the Federal Government did not help Minnesotans make that decision. In fact, while the battle was raging in Minnesota, the Director of DOE's Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management was telling the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee that if Minnesota was to allow dry-casks at Prairie Island, he could not guarantee that the waste would ever leave. And Minnesotans were then and still are all too aware that if Yucca Mountain fails to qualify as a permanent repository, there is no Federal policy for what to do with the waste then.

And we also have no policy concerning future nuclear power plants. We have no policy protecting us from a second nuclear waste crisis.

Today I introduce a bill that provides that policy. It should have been the first law Congress passed upon entering the Atomic Age. It is nothing short of common sense.

The bill I introduce today simply requires that we build no more nuclear power plants until we have some place to permanently store the waste they will generate. That's all there is to it.

There is nothing radical about this idea. It is not a partisan idea—just look at the list of original cosponsors: two Democrats and two Republicans. All this bill does is put the nuclear cart back behind the horse, where it belongs.

It is true that no utility has yet stepped forward to site a new nuclear