

also serves as a valuable resource to the domestic and international copyright communities. The Office registers almost 600,000 works a year.

Copyright has been a critical element of American creative and economic life since the beginning of our Nation. Today, our core copyright industries have become an increasingly important part of our national economy and a major area of our international trade relationships. We in the Congress must continually ensure that the basic principles of copyright remain applicable to a scientific and creative world in which technology changes very rapidly.

I would like to join the Librarian and the Register in saluting the work of the Copyright Office and its staff on this day and in paying tribute to the important services they provide in keeping our copyright system strong and adaptive to change.

REGULATORY REFORM

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, during consideration of S. 343, the Regulatory Reform Act, I intend to offer an amendment to waive administrative and civil penalties for local governments when Federal water pollution control compliance plans are in effect.

I believe this amendment is a simple issue of fairness to local governments and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this amendment. I ask unanimous consent that my amendment be printed in the RECORD, along with my "Dear Colleague" letter.

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

AMENDMENT No. —

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . WAIVER OF PENALTIES WHEN FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT COMPLIANCE PLANS ARE IN EFFECT.

Section 309 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1319) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(h) WAIVER OF PENALTIES WHEN COMPLIANCE PLANS ARE IN EFFECT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no civil or administrative penalty may be imposed under this Act against a unit of local government for a violation of a provision of this Act (including a violation of a condition of a permit issued under this Act)—

"(A) if the unit of local government has entered into an agreement with the Administrator, the Secretary of the Army (in the case of a violation of section 404), or the State to carry out a compliance plan with respect to a prior violation of the provision by the unit of local government; and

"(B) during the period—

"(i) beginning on the date on which the unit of local government and the Administrator, the Secretary of the Army (in the case of a violation of section 404), or the State enter into the agreement; and

"(ii) ending on the date on which the unit of local government is required to be in compliance with the provision under the plan.

"(2) REQUIREMENT OF GOOD FAITH.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply during any period in which the Administrator, the Secretary of

the Army (in the case of a violation of section 404), or the State determines that the unit of local government is not carrying out the compliance plan in good faith.

"(3) OTHER ENFORCEMENT.—A waiver of penalties provided under paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to a violation of any provision of this Act other than the provision that is the subject of the agreement described in paragraph (1)(A)."

WASHINGTON, DC,

June 27, 1995.

DEAR COLLEAGUE: When the Senate begins consideration of S. 343, the Regulatory Reform Bill, I intend to offer an amendment to lift the unfair burden of excessive civil penalties from the backs of local governments that are working in good faith with the Clean Water Act.

Under current law, civil penalties begin to accumulate the moment a local government violates the Clean Water Act. Once this happens, the law requires that the local government present a Municipal Compliance Plan for approval by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), or the Secretary of the Army in cases of Section 404 violations. However, even after a compliance plan has been approved, penalties continue to accumulate. In effect, existing law actually punishes local governments while they are trying to comply with the law.

Under my amendment, local governments would stop accumulating civil and administrative penalties once a Municipal Compliance Plan has been negotiated and the locality is acting in good faith to carry out the plan. Further, my amendment would act as an incentive to encourage governments to move quickly to achieve compliance with the Clean Water Act.

This amendment is a simple issue of fairness. Local governments must operate with a limited pool of resources. Localities should not have to devote their tax revenue to penalties, while having to comply with the law. Rather, by discontinuing burdensome penalties, local governments can better concentrate their resources to meet the intent of the law in protecting our water resources from pollution.

I hope you will join me in supporting this commonsense amendment for our towns and cities. If you have any questions or wish to cosponsor this amendment, please feel free to have a member of your staff contact Quinn Mast of my staff at 4-5842.

Sincerely,

LARRY PRESSLER,
United States Senator.

WAS CONGRESS IRRESPONSIBLE? LOOK AT THE ARITHMETIC

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, before contemplating today's bad news about the Federal debt, let us have "another go," as the British put it, with our little pop quiz. Remember—one question, one answer.

The question: How many million dollars in a trillion dollars? (While you are arriving at an answer, bear in mind that it was the U.S. Congress that ran up the Federal debt that now exceeds \$4.9 trillion.)

To be exact, as of the close of business yesterday, Monday, July 10, the exact Federal debt—down to the penny—stood at \$4,924,014,991,181.29. This means that, on a per capita basis, every man, woman, and child in America now owes \$18,691.65.

Mr. President, back to the pop quiz: How many million in a trillion? There are a million million in a trillion.

THE 50TH SITTING BULL STAMPEDE

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, last week marked the 50th Annual Sitting Bull Stampede in Mobridge, SD. People from across the State and Nation joined together in celebrating a long-standing tradition which first began in 1946. The stampede has a long and colorful history, and it serves to remind people of South Dakota's proud heritage.

It is appropriate that the Sitting Bull Stampede is named after the famed Sioux leader. The multicultural diversity of the event recognizes the contributions of both native Americans and non-native Americans to South Dakota in the last century. As my colleagues know, Sitting Bull was a famous leader and medicine man of the Lakota people. This native American hero was born in the Mobridge area and lived there for much of his life. His remains are buried on a nearby bluff overlooking the Missouri River.

The Sitting Bull Stampede began as a small rodeo organized by a group of cowboys. As the rodeo became more successful, the stampede began to take on a cultural focus. Last week's celebration was one of the biggest thus far, complete with parades, rodeos, a carnival, and many other festivities. More than 400 contestants competed in this year's rodeo. Miss Rodeo America, Jennifer Douglas, was on hand to assist in the crowning of this year's stampede queen, Anne Lopez of Keldron.

Mr. President, I am very proud of the accomplishments of the people of the Mobridge area in planning such a tremendous event. The Sitting Bull Stampede brings two cultures of our State together. It reminds us not to forget our past as we progress into the future. I extend my best wishes to the citizens of Mobridge and all who participated in this year's events.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

COMPREHENSIVE REGULATORY REFORM ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of S. 343, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 343) to reform the regulatory process and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

Pending:

Dole amendment No. 1487, in the nature of a substitute.