

(e) REDESIGNATION OF LAND TO MAINTAIN REVENUE FLOW.—So as to maintain the current flow of revenue from land subject to the Act entitled "An Act relating to the reconstituted Oregon and California Railroad and reconveyed Coos Bay Wagon Road grant land situated in the state of Oregon", approved August 28, 1937 (43 U.S.C. 1181a et seq.), the Secretary may redesignate public domain land located in and west of Range 9 East, Willamette Meridian, Oregon, as land subject to that Act.

(f) TIMETABLE.—The exchange directed by this section shall be consummated not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

TITLE IV—COQUILLE FOREST ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PLAN

[To be supplied.]

By Mr. HATFIELD (for himself and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 1663. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve revenue collection and to provide that a taxpayer conscientiously opposed to participation in war may elect to have such taxpayer's income, estate, or gift tax payments spent for nonmilitary purposes, to create the U.S. Peace Tax Fund to receive such tax payments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

THE U.S. PEACE TAX FUND ACT OF 1996

Mr. HATFIELD. Madam President, As tax day approaches, I once again come before the Senate to introduce the United States Peace Tax Fund. I am joined in this effort by the Senator from Iowa, Senator HARKIN, who has been a longtime original cosponsor of this bill.

I first introduced the Peace Tax Fund during the 95th Congress, nearly 20 years ago. I have reintroduced the Peace Tax Fund in every Congress since then because I believe it is important legislation.

Since 1945 eligible conscientious objectors have been excused from combat. Although our Nation long has recognized moral and religious opposition to war, it has failed to address the depth and scope of such objections. Our tax laws do not recognize that conscience not only prohibits participation on the battlefield, but also in the preparation for war through payments to the military. CO's may withhold their bodies but not their money.

The Peace Tax Fund Act, if enacted, would allow complete participation in our Federal Government by all citizens without many being forced to compromise deeply held beliefs of any citizen.

Over the years I have received many letters from constituents describing their disapproval of military taxes and their desire to have the Federal Government respect such objections. Some citizens write of their decision to set aside their beliefs and pay their taxes in full, despite the anguish such payment causes. Others, perhaps following Albert Einstein's advice, "Never do

anything against conscience even if the State demands it," refuse to pay a portion of their taxes. Some Americans purposefully keep their income below the taxable level, so that they can avoid the decision altogether.

It is important to point out what the Peace Tax Fund legislation is not. The Peace tax Fund is not a method by which a citizen may lodge protest over wasteful defense programs. Nor is it a tool to circumvent foreign policy initiatives. Tax liabilities cannot be reduced through participation in the Peace Tax Fund. The Peace Tax Fund Act was developed not for those individuals seeking to alter national policy, but rather to allow certain individuals to fully uphold Federal law without violating their consciences.

The Peace Tax Fund would allow these sincere conscientious objectors the opportunity to pay their Federal taxes in full. Those who qualify may choose to have that portion of their taxes which would go to military activities instead be diverted to a special trust fund—the Peace Tax Fund—and then disbursed to two Federal programs: Head Start and WIC. The bill would not reduce the amount of funding for military activities. Nor would it result in any significant loss of revenue, according to the Joint Committee on Taxation.

As defined by the Peace Tax Fund Act, an eligible conscientious objector is anyone who has obtained this status under the Military Selective Service Act. Others may submit a questionnaire to the Secretary of the Treasury certifying his or her beliefs and how those beliefs affect that individual's life.

In the 20-plus years that this issue has been debated, only two hearings have been held. The last hearing was held by the House Ways and Means Committee in 1992. The Senate has never held hearings on the Peace Tax Fund. It is my hope that before I leave the Senate the Finance Committee will hold a hearing on this issue.

The Peace Tax Fund has had the support of many committed religious and peace organizations throughout the years. I ask unanimous consent that a partial listing of the organizations endorsing the Peace Tax Fund be included in the RECORD.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this legislation so important to the protection of personal and religious beliefs of many citizens who find themselves each tax season torn between the law and conscience.

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

PARTIAL LISTING OF ORGANIZATIONS ENDORSING THE PEACE TAX FUND

1. American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.
2. American Friends Service Committee.
3. Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America.
4. Buddhist Peace Fellowship.
5. Catholic Committee of Appalachia.
6. Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors.

7. Church of the Brethren.
8. Consortium on Peace Research Education and Development.
9. Episcopal Peace Fellowship.
10. Evangelicals for Social Action.
11. Fellowship of Reconciliation.
12. Franciscan Federation of Brothers and Sisters.
13. Franciscans Sisters of the Poor.
14. Friends Committee on National Legislation.
15. Friends United Meeting.
16. Fund For Peace.
17. General Conference of the Mennonite Church.
18. Grandmothers for Peace.
19. Jewish Peace Fellowship.
20. Leadership Conference of Women Religious—Peace/Disarmament Task Force.
21. Lutheran Campus Ministry.
22. Lutheran Peace Fellowship.
23. Mennonite Central Committee.
24. Mennonite Church General Board.
25. Mercian Orthodox Catholic Church.
26. National Assembly of Religious Women.
27. National Council of Churches Ecumenical Witness Conference.
28. National Federation of Priests' Councils.
29. National Interreligious Service Board for Conscientious Objectors.
30. National Jobs with Peace Campaign.
31. NETWORK—A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby.
32. New Call to Peacemaking.
33. Nonviolence International.
34. Nuclear Free America.
35. Pax Christi USA.
36. Presbyterian Church USA.
37. Presbyterian Peace Fellowship.
38. Project for Conversion of Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory.
39. School Sisters of St. Francis.
40. Society of the Sacred Heart—US Province Provincial Team.
41. Sojourners.
42. Unitarian Universalist Association.
43. United Church of Christ.
44. United Methodist Church.
45. US Province Office of the US Provincials.
46. Veterans for Peace.
47. War Resisters' League.
48. Women Strike for Peace.
49. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.
50. World Peacemakers.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 491

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. BINGAMAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage of outpatient self-management training services under part B of the Medicare program for individuals with diabetes.

S. 605

At the request of Mr. DOLE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 605, a bill to establish a uniform and more efficient Federal process for protecting property owners' rights guaranteed by the fifth amendment.

S. 864

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 864, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide

for increased Medicare reimbursement for nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists to increase the delivery of health services in health professional shortage areas, and for other purposes.

S. 953

At the request of Mr. DOLE, the name of the Senator from Arizona [Mr. KYL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 953, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of black revolutionary war patriots.

S. 969

At the request of Mr. BRADLEY, the names of the Senator from Tennessee [Mr. FRIST], the Senator from Delaware [Mr. BIDEN], and the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. GRAMS] were added as cosponsors of S. 969, a bill to require that health plans provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for a mother and child following the birth of the child, and for other purposes.

S. 1028

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1028, a bill to provide increased access to health care benefits, to provide increased portability of health care benefits, to provide increased security of health care benefits, to increase the purchasing power of individuals and small employers, and for other purposes.

S. 1039

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Tennessee [Mr. FRIST] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1039, a bill to require Congress to specify the source of authority under the United States Constitution for the enactment of laws, and for other purposes.

S. 1178

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1178, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of colorectal screening under part B of the Medicare program.

S. 1373

At the request of Mr. DOLE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota [Mr. PRESSLER] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1373, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to minimize the regulatory burden on agricultural producers in the conservation of highly erodible land, wetland, and retired cropland, and for other purposes.

S. 1506

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1506, a bill to provide for a reduction in regulatory costs by maintaining Federal average fuel economy standards applicable to automobiles in effect at current levels until changed by law, and for other purposes.

S. 1610

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr.

COCHRAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1610, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the standards used for determining whether individuals are not employees.

S. 1612

At the request of Mr. HELMS, the name of the Senator from Arizona [Mr. KYL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1612, a bill to provide for increased mandatory minimum sentences for criminals possessing firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 1619

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Tennessee [Mr. THOMPSON] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1619, a bill to amend the provisions of title 17, United States Code, to provide for an exemption of copyright infringement for the performance of nondramatic musical works in small commercial establishments, and for other purposes.

S. 1635

At the request of Mr. DOLE, the names of the Senator from Texas [Mr. GRAMM], the Senator from Missouri [Mr. ASHCROFT], and the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. FAIRCLOTH] were added as cosponsors of S. 1635, a bill to establish a United States policy for the deployment of a national missile defense system, and for other purposes.

S. 1654

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island [Mr. CHAFEE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1654, a bill to apply equal standards to certain foreign made and domestically produced handguns.

SENATE RESOLUTION 217

At the request of Mrs. KASSEBAUM, the names of the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. AKAKA], the Senator from South Dakota [Mr. DASCHLE], the Senator from New York [Mr. D'AMATO], the Senator from Tennessee [Mr. FRIST], the Senator from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], the Senator from Idaho [Mr. KEMPTHORNE], the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. BINGAMAN], and the Senator from New Mexico [Mr. DOMENICI] were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 217, a resolution to designate the first Friday in May 1996, as "American Foreign Service Day" in recognition of the men and women who have served or are presently serving in the American Foreign Service, and to honor those in the American Foreign Service who have given their lives in the line of duty.

SENATE RESOLUTION 226

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the names of the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. INOUE], the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. THURMOND], the Senator from Alabama [Mr. HEFLIN], and the Senator from Virginia [Mr. ROBB] were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 226, a resolution to proclaim the week of October 13 through October 19, 1996, as "National Character Counts Week."

SENATE RESOLUTION 236—APPOINTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN SENATE COMMITTEES

Mr. DOLE (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 236

Resolved, That, notwithstanding the provisions of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following Members are hereby appointed to the following Senate committees:

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. Bennett and Mr. Wyden.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION: Mr. Abraham and Mr. Wyden.

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET: Mr. Grams and Mr. Wyden.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING: Mr. Warner and Mr. Wyden.

SENATE RESOLUTION 237—RELATIVE TO THE NATIONAL DEBT

Mr. FAIRCLOTH submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Governmental Affairs, jointly, pursuant to the order of August 4, 1977, with instructions that if one committee reports, the other committee have 30 days to report or be discharged:

S. RES. 237

Whereas, the United States national debt is approximately \$4.9 trillion;

Whereas, the Congress has authorized the national debt by law to reach \$5.5 trillion;

Whereas, the 104th Congress and the President have both presented plans to balance the budget by the year 2002, by which time our national debt will be approximately \$6.5 trillion;

Whereas, this accumulated debt represents a significant financial burden that will require excessive taxation and lost economic opportunity for future generations of the United States;

Resolved, That, it is the sense of the Senate that any comprehensive legislation that balances the budget by a certain date and that is agreed to by the Congress and the President shall also contain a strategy for reducing the national debt of the United States.

NATIONAL DEBT REDUCTION

Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation that will require the Treasury Secretary to prepare a report for Congress on recommendations to reduce the national debt. Further, Mr. President, I am submitting a sense-of-the-Senate resolution that if we enact a balanced budget plan this year, such legislation should also contain a strategy for reducing the national debt.

Yesterday, the Congress raised the national debt to \$5.5 trillion, a figure beyond the comprehension of most people. By most estimates, we will not even begin to balance a budget until the year 2002, at which point the national debt will, of course, be even larger—\$6.5 trillion.

Mr. President, I am concerned about this debt burden that we have placed on our children, grandchildren, and children yet born. We continue to spend money we do not have on day-to-